

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

"First the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear."

The Monitor's view

Hold back the deserts

With deserts on every continent now extending their arid claws at the relentless rate of 14 million acres a year, the urgent need to stem the global march of sand was never more evident.

That is why 1,500 delegates from 100 nations and 150 interested organizations have gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, for the UN Conference on Desertification. Their objective of seeing how much more can be done to halt the deserts' encroachment is not only timely but crucial to mankind.

The desert creep is not confined, as some suppose, to outlying portions of the world, such as Africa and Asia. It happens in the United States as well. In portions of Arizona and New Mexico where Indian reservations have suffered. And the spreading is not due only to droughts and changes in global weather patterns. It stems, as much as anything, from man's mismanagement of the soil and from pressure to produce more food.

One remembers, for example, Kenyans in recent years contributing to the future arid areas of their own country by recklessly chopping down scarce trees to make charcoal to sell to oil-rich Arab nations. Moreover, the devastating impact of the 1972-74 drought in the African Sahel area (composed of seven nations on the southern edge of the Sahara) was intensified by human mistakes, such as the uncontrolled buildup of cattle herds, the overgrazing of animals on marginal land, and the agricultural misuse of such land. One result was that crops quickly failed in such areas

when drought struck, then livestock died, after which humans were destitute. A similar grim pattern struck Ethiopia in 1974 and 1975, contributing to the instability in that country.

Preventing such victories for the desert has long preoccupied mankind. The Sahel recently has had more or less normal wet seasons, but one reads with dismay that the region still is without such an essential as daily weather forecasts, although that lack is apparently soon to be rectified. All of which shows the potential usefulness of the Nairobi conference, the first to discuss active prevention of desertification and the problems of man-made deserts.

This UN conclave can benefit the world's needy not only by airing such problems as unwise use of land, poor land management, erosion, dune formation, deforestation, and salt encrustation, but also by providing possible solutions and guidance for the estimated 50 million persons who today live in areas slowly becoming desert. With a rising world population and consequent pressure for foodstuffs, these dry or barren regions cannot be surrendered as hopeless or, worse yet, allowed to multiply unchecked.

Major commitments of money and manpower by many nations over a period of time obviously will be required to turn back the arid tide with irrigation, reforestation, better farm methods and animal control. But this immense task must be shouldered if the silent takeover of arable land, such as the Sahara's implacable southern drift of up to 60 miles in 20 years in some areas, is to end. Difficult though the job will be, it deserves everyone's selfless support.

'Shh . . . it's the dog catcher . . . start meowing'



The Christian Science Monitor

After the Vance Peking visit

Little was ventured and little gained. That seems to be a reasonable summary of Secretary of State Vance's China trip, now that he has reported personally to President Carter. It was, as the White House pointed out, "a good beginning" toward full diplomatic relations between Washington and Peking, although no such step is imminent. Otherwise, the Vance visit was primarily an exercise in keeping the door open between the two nations, in establishing the initial high-level contact between the Carter administration and the new leadership of China. As such, it undoubtedly has served a useful purpose. Gradualism seems to be the keynote all around.

Especially does this seem to apply to the problem of Taiwan. Nothing specific has yet emerged to indicate any shift on that. The Chinese, for their part, displayed no "give" in their position; they still regard Taiwan as an internal affair for China, a matter about which they cannot negotiate or give guarantees to an outside nation such as the United States.

The result is that the Taiwan issue, in effect, has been put on the back burner as far as any change in U.S. relations is concerned. Establishment of ties with Peking and breaking of relations with Taipei remains where it was, somewhere in the indistinct future. This is probably as good a position as Washington can devise at present. Those Taiwanese who were deeply concerned that the Vance trip might

herald at least the beginning of an American shift of position can take what comfort they may from the present status quo. But they are well aware that a change still could get under way whenever either of the two major powers finds sufficient reason for doing so. Indeed, the Japanese appear to believe that normalization of Sino-American relations still is making progress.

But from Mr. Carter's viewpoint, this is no time to be moving toward a break with Taiwan. Such a step is strongly opposed by many Americans; the Carter critics would label it another "giveaway." With the Panama Canal treaties facing a tough battle for ratification, and with withdrawal of American ground forces from South Korea also planned, the President already has enough giveaway talk to counteract.

Thus, a simple hold-the-line policy toward China probably serves U.S. interests at the moment better than one that is more decisive or involves specific commitments. That appears to suit the mainland Chinese as well.

Mr. Carter, meanwhile, might consider the wisdom of sending his Secretary of State on such errands in view of Peking's lack of reciprocity at a comparable level. And while gradualism seems justified just now, it does not exempt the administration from using the current lull to think out more precisely what are its China and Taiwan policies.

South Africa's nuclear denial

Despite South Africa's assurances that it has no nuclear weapons and does not plan any nuclear tests, President Carter was well advised to point out at his news conference that the United States would continue to watch the situation closely. For Westerners still believe that South Africa has the capacity to "go nuclear." If it so chooses, which is a matter for concern, it possesses both the uranium reserves and a long-standing nuclear research program that are essential ingredients for producing a nuclear device. And there were those satellite sightings of possible test activity in the remote Kalahari desert region, which originally aroused suspicion, but which South Africa

assured Mr. Carter was not designed to test nuclear explosives.

South Africa's protestations of innocence in this matter may be genuine enough. But they would carry more weight if that country were willing to become a member of the nuclear nonproliferation treaty, which it has not so far agreed to do. South Africa, on the other hand, can argue that such nuclear powers as France, China, and India have not joined the nonproliferation club, and that it has a right to retain its own nuclear option for the possible military or political advantages that might ensue.

There nonetheless are several explanations why South Africa may have decided not to make the effort to produce nuclear weapons. One is that such a step almost certainly would increase South Africa's isolation from much of

the world and perhaps lead to trade and arms boycotts it can ill afford. Further isolation certainly would not be in South Africa's political interest either, since it still hopes to work out its problems with its neighbors through negotiation.

Moreover, South Africa already is sufficiently strong militarily in relation to its potential external foes not to need nuclear weapons to ensure its safety.

It nevertheless would help to allay suspicion about its intentions if South Africa were to decide to sign the nonproliferation treaty and accept its restrictions. The incident also serves as a reminder to the United States, which has supplied South Africa with enriched uranium under international safeguards with no known misuse, of the need for constant alertness in monitoring such peaceful sales.

encouraged. The uneasy balance of the Soviet-U.S.-China triangle would be upset. The long-range potential for mutually beneficial East-West relationships — and mutual efforts for the good of the planet — would be undermined.

Thus there could hardly be better news for the world than the reduction of pessimism about anything constructive happening before Oct. 3. President Carter has always expressed a basic optimism, despite setbacks. Recently Soviet leader Brezhnev publicly seemed to soften his country's harsh reaction to the original Carter proposals by saying he would welcome a new arms-talk initiative from the U.S. And this newspaper has been told by high U.S. sources not only that the U.S. would likewise welcome a Soviet initiative but that it believes the climate for negotiations has improved.

The expectation is that the U.S. would be willing to accept lesser limitations beyond the Vladivostok levels than it originally hoped for. The Soviet Union's economic troubles might help persuade it that holding down the arms race would be to its advantage, too. There is the perennial Soviet view that Russia needs some advantages because it is behind what is behind — and needs to catch up. But it should also know that, in an unrestrained arms race, the U.S. still has the resources and knowledge to win as it always has.

No one realistically supposed that either side would accept agreements it regarded as more to the other side's advantage than its own. If the new climate is confirmed and continues, it should partake of the very realistic realization on both sides that the absence of agreement would be the worst disadvantage to both of them — and to a world which needs to see some example of nuclear restraint on the part of the big powers. If the attractiveness of spreading nuclear weapons is to be reduced.

Fortunately, today's American negotiators seem to be speaking with one voice. This is a welcome contrast with five years ago when, as then negotiators recall, those at the bargaining table sometimes did not know what was being done on the higher-level presidential track, and undercutting and confusion were the result.

Sunshine on SALT?

Suddenly, in the last weeks before the Oct. 3 deadline, the possibility of a new SALT agreement seems brighter. It is vital that American and Soviet authorities foster the apparently improved climate for negotiation and turn possibility into fact. At a minimum there should be a decision to extend the present "Interim agreement" on strategic arms limitations reached in 1972. Indeed, it would be better to do this and buy time for negotiating a significantly improved pact than to rush into a less satisfactory one.

The crucial point is not to let the deadline pass with neither an old or new agreement settled. And for a time the two sides appeared so much at loggerheads that such an outcome was conceivable, despite its disadvantages for each side's self-interest.

An accelerated arms race need not inevitably result from the absence of mutual Soviet-American controls. But with no agreed constraints, the temptation on both sides would be great. And, beyond the military sphere, the end of SALT would remove a central symbolic and substantive element in détente. Political frictions at East-West points of contact would be

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South Africa's black student revolt grows

Servility is the issue, education is the target

By June Goodwin
Staff correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

Johannesburg
South Africa's urban blacks are pressing ahead in their determination to overthrow the entire Bantu (African) education system — in clear defiance of the country's white Afrikaner government.

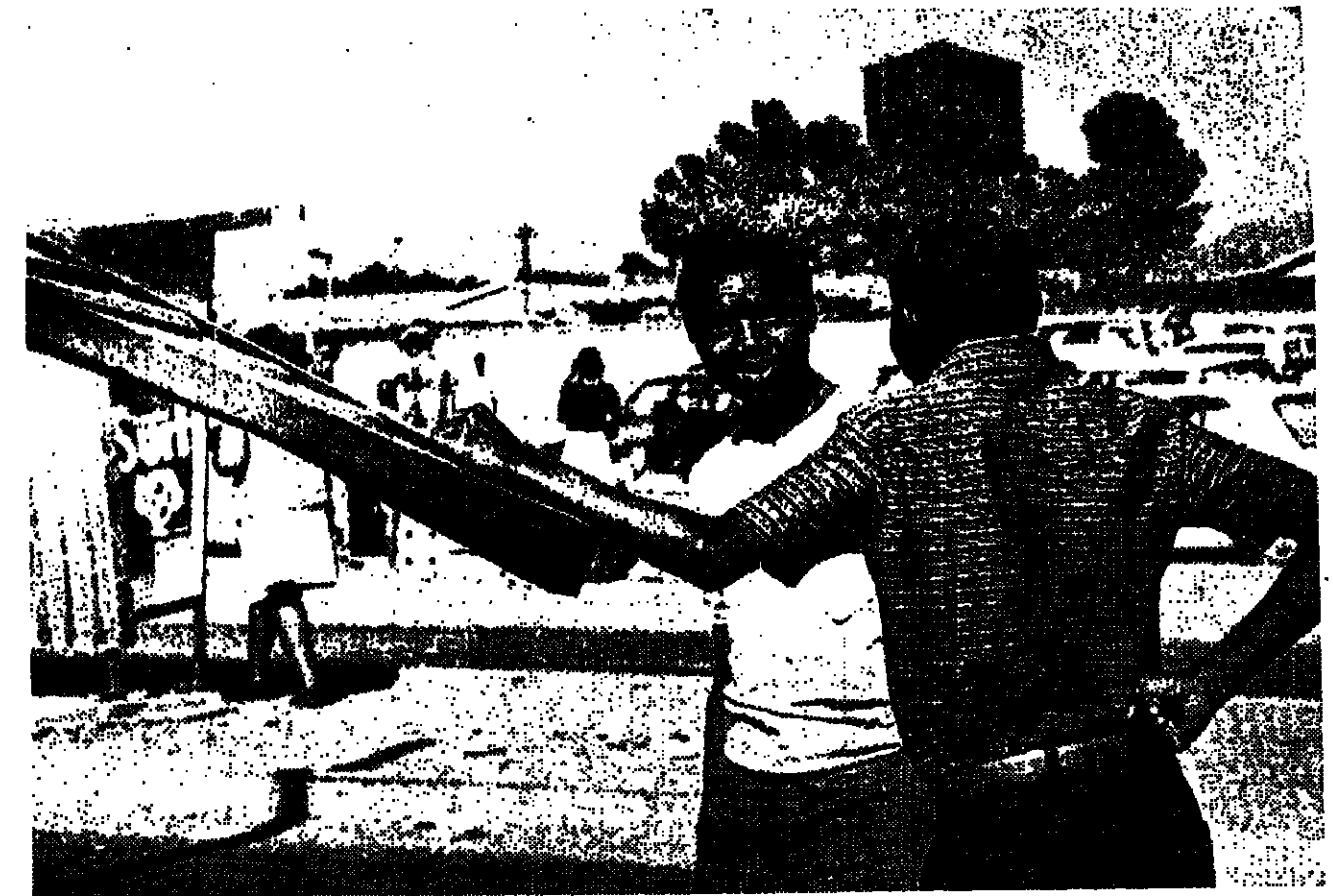
The African education system is the blacks' immediate target in their current campaign to end black servility because they believe the system is designed to produce black subservience to whites. The white education system in South Africa is completely different from that for Africans, and vastly more public money is spent per capita on educating white children than on black children.

In the latest developments:

- Young-old solidarity has been strengthened by the mass resignation of 700 high-school teachers in the vast township of Soweto, just outside Johannesburg. By doing this, the teachers have lined themselves up with the high-school students who have been boycotting classes and the parents who have boycotted the government's plan for re-registering students.

- A black counterplan has been put forward for reopening classes under community sponsorship, not in the schools now under direct government control, but in Soweto's many churches.

According to a spokesman for the Committee of Ten, a body of community leaders who claim widespread support from Soweto organizations, the teachers will be cared for financially once their resignations have gone through and arrangements



By R. Norman Matheny, staff photographer

Soweto students waiting for a bus — to town, not school

are made for them to start taking classes in the churches. The teachers will "teach the gospel for liberation in the churches," the committee spokesman said.

Recognizing that the South African Government will probably not like such a move, the spokesman added, "Something will happen there" [i.e., in the churches].

But the spokesman did note that any police movement

against churches would be disapproved by some whites. When police used tear gas to disperse a crowd at the Roman Catholic Church on June 18 this year, those who did it were told not to do it again.

"This is the greatest challenge [to the government]," the spokesman said. "They claim to be Christian. Let us see."

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China's statement on Vance trip

Tiny Taiwan: big bump in road to Peking

By Frederic A. Moritz
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Hong Kong
In its first detailed assessment of the visit to Peking last month of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, China has taken the Carter administration to task for retreating from the normalization proposals of former President Gerald Ford.

China rejected Mr. Vance's proposal to set up an official American liaison office in Taiwan and an embassy in Peking. Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping has told a visiting delegation of Associated Press executives. He claimed the Vance proposal was a retreat from a December, 1975, promise by then President Ford to break totally diplomatic relations with Taiwan if the latter was elected to the office in his own right.

But in the 90-minute meeting Mr. Teng also hinted at Chinese flexibility on the question of Taiwan. Although the Chinese regard Taiwan as an internal problem, they would take into consideration the special conditions prevailing on Taiwan in trying to solve the problem with the United States, he said.

Yet Mr. Teng also reaffirmed that China will not promise to refrain from taking Taiwan by force if the United States ends its security commitment to the island. The farthest Mr. Teng would go was to say that if the United States did not interfere, the Chinese would not rule out a peaceful settlement of the issue.

Mr. Teng's comments appeared designed to: 1) express doubt about a Chinese timetable for breaking relations with Taiwan; 2) hint at Chinese flexibility on the Taiwan issue since the Shanghai communiqué of 1972.

- Undercut any impression left by Chinese cordiality during the Vance visit, that China willingly has put the Taiwan issue on the back burner.

- Continue public pressure on the Carter administration to move toward ending the American political and military commitment to Taiwan.

The Chinese people have patience, Mr. Teng said he told Secretary Vance, but the patience cannot last forever. Mr. Teng said there was no talk of a deadline.

Mr. Teng reportedly stressed that the meetings with Secretary Vance had been cordial and useful for an exchange of views, but that reports of progress were wrong. He said the American side had been responsible for leaving the impression after Mr. Vance's visit that the Chinese would be flexible about promising not to take Taiwan by force.

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Panama Canal treaty

Latins dive in, Americans tread water

By James Nelson Goodsell
Latin America correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Washington
The Carter administration is pulling out all stops in its effort to win public support and eventual Senate ratification for its new Panama Canal treaties.

Last Wednesday's gigantic diplomatic extravaganza, with 15 Latin American presidents and prime ministers on hand in Washington for the signing ceremony, was a new effort to speed the lobbying effort.

The White House clearly hopes the momentum generated by its four-week-old campaign for the treaties will get a strong boost from the unprecedented gathering of hemisphere leaders.

While administration spokesmen are reluctant to discuss full details of the lobbying and are quick to reject the complaint that the effort is blatant hucksterism, they admit that they face an uphill fight to win approval for the treaties.

Recent polls show that a majority of United States citizens oppose the treaties, which provide for full Panamanian control of the 82-year-old waterway by 2000, even though the U.S. will have a continuing defense role at the canal. Moreover, one of the treaties provides for permanent neutrality of the waterway.

This issue is important to many of the hemisphere leaders who gathered here. During the signing ceremonies on the evening of Sept. 7,

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Pen and hand do not a signature make

By Gerald Priestland
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor



For a proper hand, a proper setting

London
One of these days I'm going to be re-reared for forging my own signature. The trouble is, I don't write it very well, even though it's mine. And this makes it extremely difficult to get my own money out of the bank.

It's partly my own fault. For a start, I don't use the same signature on cheques that I do on letters. Sometimes I forget this and sign a cheque as if it were a letter. Once, paying my tailor (id the days when I had a tailor, instead of a department store), I even signed the cheque "Yours faithfully, G. E. Priestland." My tailor wrote to say he appreciated the courtesy, but it would make things easier for him at the bank if I just gave him my signature.

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Spain: warnings for the wealthy

By Joe Gandelman
Special correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Madrid
The Spanish Government is planning to take tougher "soak the rich" measures to cool down a possibly long, hot autumn. It is quietly warning wealthy circles and bankers that they must choose between moderate government reform now or increasing worker anger over economic inequalities that could lead to a future electoral victory by the powerful Socialist Workers Party (PSOE) and far tougher measures on the rich by a PSOE government.

Informed economic analysts say the government's present economic package is "a terrific plan, if it works — and if the government has the time to make it work."

In the first six months of this year, the cost of living index rose 13.4 percent. Inflation is 30 percent. More than 800,000 are unemployed.

As a solution the government has adopted a complex package that, basically, involves tax reform and mild bolt-tightening. The program was developed by the deputy premier in charge of economic affairs, Enrique Fuentes Quintana. He is considered one of the country's leading economists by most top economic experts in Spain's political parties, both left and right.

Under the Fuentes plan:

- Unemployment would be reduced or at least kept from rising. The monetary supply would be tightened. The danger: if this happens without moderating wages, smaller businesses could be destroyed since costs would be high. These businesses would be unable to get credits to help meet costs.
- Funds for public expenditure would be increased by higher levies on gasoline and transportation, in addition to tax re-

forms that should raise an extra 22 billion pesetas (\$257 million) the first year alone.

• The whopping balance-of-payments deficit and inflation rate would be reduced. Experts believe the 25 percent devaluation of the peseta in July, plus inflation controls, could control the balance-of-payments deficit.

But there are many uncertainties. The package is a single unit and if one part sags, inflation could rise. All measures would take effect one year from now — so time is needed. And everything hinges on wage restraints and whether the government can get its tax reforms through the Parliament. Informed speculation is that it will.

Meanwhile, labor unions are competing for votes in elections this fall that will determine which unions will represent the workers. If such competition combined with union links to political parties gets out of hand, labor negotiations might be impossible. If wages rise, so will inflation. Under this "economic domino theory," labor militancy could in the short term spark higher inflation — and cause grave political problems for the government.

At the same time, the rich and the banks are edgy. They are upset over government moves to hit higher incomes via a wealth tax and the relaxation of bank security laws to put more teeth into tax reform. But they are especially scared that the PSOE could sweep this winter's municipal elections, and PSOE policies frighten investors. The socialist party has vowed to nationalize electricity companies, among others.

Tax reform thus becomes a vital trade-off. It shows the poor that the government intends to make the rich pay and it might therefore help achieve union restraint.

Analysis warns that if the government fails to get its tax reforms the PSOE's prospects of victory would be enhanced. In fact, this is reportedly the line the government is giving to the



By R. Norman Matheny, staff photographer
Madrid: rich pay more, to avert swing left

wealthy and the banks: accept tax reform now and lose a little with us, or risk losing almost everything later with the PSOE. Even leftist economists are said privately to agree the Fuentes program is "technically sound." Differences arise over its political aspects. In the end, the Left believes the government will run out of time on the economic front — and it will ultimately be up to a PSOE government to pick up the pieces.

Portugal

Austerity drive all the way to the beach

By Helen Gilkes
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

Lisbon
Portuguese flocked to the beaches the last weekend in August after buying Europe's highest-priced gasoline to drive out in cars being paid off at the highest interest rate.

The cost increases were included in the government's new austerity package aimed at restoring economic equilibrium blown to the wind by the revolution of April, 1974.

The measures boosted the cost of super-grade gasoline from \$2.25 a gallon to \$2.75. The interest on auto loans was increased to 27 percent, on top of a 40 percent luxury tax that has pushed up the cost of a small Fiat 127 to \$4,176.

At the same time, homeowners were told that as of Sept. 1, their mortgage rates were going up at least 2.5 percent, to a maximum of 15 percent. Other interest rates were raised another 1 percent on bank loans, and 12 percent would henceforward be charged on loans for consumer goods.

These measures are in addition to last February's austerity packet that added a 40 per-

cent luxury tax on most already highly taxed imported goods.

Buried in the new package is a decision to gradually devalue the national currency on a regular basis. Bank of Portugal officials said this would start at about 1 percent monthly, but could rise in the future.

The vice-governor of the Bank of Portugal, Victor Constancio, said the continuation of the devaluation would depend on the difference between the rate of inflation in Portugal — now officially at around 30 percent a year — and that of Portugal's major trading partners. It also would be governed by the state of Portugal's foreign and gold reserves.

As an editorial in the prestigious weekly newspaper Expresso remarked: "It is obvious our inflation will continue for a few years to be higher than that of the countries we trade with, and the recuperation of our trading balance will be slow, so that the monetary policies as defined by the government mean that as from now, we are in a [disguised] permanent state of devaluation."

Finance Minister Henrique Medina Carreira said the measures were aimed at reducing the

public's spending from \$96 million monthly to \$42 million by October.

"If the Portuguese people cannot afford to use their cars, they should remember their grandfathers had only horses and carts and they survived," he said. "We have reached the limit of our credit."

Dr. Medina Carreira described a \$750 million loan from a Western consortium as covering the overspending of the Portuguese for the next 18 months. After that, he said, the nation would have to live on its own resources, which means erasing its annual \$1.2 billion balance-of-payments deficit.

The Portuguese, who have watched their real wage increases wane during the revolution disappear in the face of the galloping inflation, did not welcome the government's latest economic measures. At bus stops and in shops and cafes there was only one topic of conversation.

"If this is socialism, I don't want it. All I can see happening is that prices go up every time you turn around," said a housewife in a line for milk. "We've been promised better lives, but ours seem to be getting worse."

Violence may silence London carnival

By Alexander MacLeod
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

London
The future of London's annual Caribbean Carnival is seriously threatened following an eruption of violence at this year's event held in the British capital's Notting Hill racial trouble-spot.

After two days of mainly carefree reveling, events suddenly got out of hand the night of Aug. 29 as groups of West Indian immigrant youths clashed with police, leading to many arrests. In all, 170 police were injured and 200 crimes were reported, mainly assaults and robberies.

The violent scenes, reminiscent of similar events last year though not so serious, are causing the organizers to reconsider whether there should be another carnival in Notting Hill next year.

Conservative Party spokesman on home affairs William Whitelaw, who dealt with far more serious violence as administrator for Northern Ireland, believes the carnival should not be repeated in Notting Hill. Police officials, who tried to control the celebrations by using low-profile methods, said it was too early to make a final decision.

But in the hours following the violence many Notting Hill residents were arguing that it was wrong to invite disorder in a district where relations between police and colored migrants have been tense.

Aside from the problem of deciding proper police tactics for dealing with outbreaks of racial hostility, the sour outcome of Notting Hill raises deeper questions of race relations in Britain. Last year's Notting Hill riot underlined the effect of bad economic conditions upon immigrant groups in Britain's large cities.

It is this aspect of the latest carnival that most disturbs David Lane, chairman of the Commission for Race Equality.

"It is tragic that after the efforts of the organizers, their stewards, the police, and the public to ensure a successful carnival, the occasion was spoiled by a few hundred rampaging youths," Mr. Lane said afterwards.

According to senior police officials, there will be detailed discussions with the organizers in a few days as part of an effort to decide whether there can be another carnival next year. Many Notting Hill residents agree with Mr. Whitelaw, however, that if there is to be another such event, it should be confined to a stadium and banned from residential areas.

White rulers eye Anglo-U.S. black transfer plan

Smith and Vorster turn their backs but leave door open

By Geoffrey Godsell
Overseas news editor of
The Christian Science Monitor

The white governments of Rhodesia and South Africa have turned their backs on the Anglo-U.S. proposals for a speedy transfer to black majority rule in Rhodesia — at least for the time being.

Simultaneously the white prime ministers of Rhodesia and South Africa are consolidating their positions at home to ensure white support for race policies of their own choosing. These policies differ from what the U.S. and British governments think they should be, if race war is to be avoided in southern Africa and openings in the region are to be denied to the Soviets.

Both the U.S. and British governments believe that, to check Soviet influence in southern Africa, the right course is to put as much distance as possible between themselves and South Africa and Rhodesia. But the governments of these two countries, seeing themselves as holding the line against the Soviet Union and communism in Africa, have long angled for closer and more open U.S. and British support. It remains to be seen whether the long-term aim of their present maneuvering is not still to involve the West on their side to help bail them out if things go wrong.

In Salisbury, Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith is interpreting his sweeping election victory of Aug. 31 — his party won all 50 white

seats in Parliament — as a mandate to forge ahead with his so-called "internal solution" to give political power to blacks.

But interestingly, Mr. Smith did not slam the door completely on the alternative proposals for an "external solution" put to him in Salisbury Sept. 1 as the final election results were coming in. After talks with British Foreign Secretary David Owen and U.S. Ambassador to the UN Andrew Young, the Rhodesian Prime Minister promised to give their proposals "through consideration."

Meanwhile, South African Prime Minister John Vorster — who has been unresponsive to Anglo-U.S. pressure to try to get him to persuade Mr. Smith to accept the Owen-Young

proposals — is rallying white support at provincial caucuses of his National Party by depicting South Africa as a brave and righteous David standing up to a U.S. Goliath who has British support.

But Mr. Vorster and Mr. Smith — the latter the more reluctantly — have accepted the principle of majority rule in Rhodesia. (In that country, blacks outnumber whites nearly 25 to 1, but whites have had a monopoly hitherto of political power. A mounting guerrilla war adds urgency to the black demand for political change.) But the two prime ministers believe that Mr. Smith has the right: to control the process of change; to seek to transfer power to blacks of his own choosing — obviously moderate ones; and to safeguard the white position in Rhodesia during the process of change, and perhaps thereafter, by ensuring white control of the forces of law and order.

As the two prime ministers apparently see it, the "external solution" is unacceptable because it would open the door too easily to the guerrilla forces of the Patriotic Front headed by Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe and would put whites immediately at risk by disbanding the present Rhodesian Army and bringing in a UN peace-keeping force for the transition period. The present Rhodesian police force — which is under white command but in which three men out of four are black — would, however, continue to operate.

What Mr. Smith wants to do is to keep Mr. Nkomo and Mr. Mugabe at arm's length and seek an accommodation instead with either Bishop Abel Muzorewa or the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole. These two men are both inside Rhodesia — unlike Mr. Nkomo and Mr. Mugabe — and both have renounced violence as a means of achieving black majority rule. Such a resolution of the crisis would be Mr. Smith's preferred "internal solution."

The U.S. and British governments believe this approach naive on the grounds that any compromise devised by Mr. Smith along these lines would be unacceptable to the Patriotic Front's guerrillas who would continue fighting with the aim of wrecking it. Both Bishop Muzorewa and Mr. Sithole are aware of this possibility, and it has to be seen whether Mr. Smith is willing to go far enough to meet their demands for a transfer of power to make it worth their while to play ball with him.

If they do and then make the case that they have black majority support inside Rhodesia, Mr. Smith probably reasons that the U.S. and British governments would have to think again. And (he may believe) the British and Americans could find themselves then resisting the Patriotic Front instead of conciliating it — perhaps even bailing him out if his "internal solution" goes wrong and a modified "external solution" has to be sought to take its place.

UN skeptical of Rhodesian peace force

By David Anable
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

United Nations, New York
United Nations officials are extremely skeptical in private about the possibility of setting up a UN peace force for Rhodesia — or "Zimbabwe," as the breakaway British colony is known here.

Even if the huge political obstacles here can be overcome, they add, they are deeply concerned lest a weak and muddled Security Council mandate render the force's peace-keeping task almost impossible.

They are particularly concerned not to repeat the bloodshed and chaos of the UN's intervention in the former Belgian Congo back in the early 1960s.

A United Nations Zimbabwe force is a key element in the British-American settlement plan designed to move the territory to black majority rule by the end of 1978.

One of the sticking points, for both white Rhodesians and black nationalists has been control of security forces during the proposed transition period. The UN military presence is intended to fill the void and prevent either the present white-led security forces or the black nationalist guerrillas from seizing the upper hand.

However, for the UN force to have any hope whatever of success, these sources say, both sides must clearly agree to its presence and role. "Chapter 7 does not work unless all sides

cooperate," these experts say, referring to the UN Charter article dealing with peace forces.

The exiled leaders of the Patriotic Front, which controls most of the guerrillas, have rejected at least this aspect of the settlement plan. Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith says he still has not made up his mind, but is plainly leaning toward an "internal settlement" with black leaders inside the country.

Another sticking point

Second, the UN experts say, a lack of Soviet and Chinese involvement in the working out of the Anglo-American plan does not bode well for those countries' acceptance of it in the Security Council, where each has a veto.

Third, they go on, the guidelines for the force's role are anything but clear-cut. Under the plan submitted to the UN Sept. 1, the details of the UN role are left to be discussed by the proposed British resident commissioner in Rhodesia and a UN representative. But even the broad principles raise many questions.

The UN force is meant to supervise the cease-fire. But it is pointed out that Rhodesia is engaged in a guerrilla war with no easily observed military fronts. In addition, the prime responsibility for law and order is allocated under the Anglo-U.S. plan to the Rhodesian police force under the orders of the resident commissioner, not the UN force.

Whose control?

The UN force is meant to "support the civil power." But that raises fundamental questions of whether the force is responsible to the Brit-

ish resident commissioner or to the UN Security Council. And, these sources say, the Soviet Union is hardly likely to agree to a mandate that places UN troops, in effect, under control of the British.

Finally, the UN force is meant to establish liaison with both the existing Rhodesian armed forces and the black nationalist guerrillas. But it is pointed out that there are some 50,000 full- or part-time Rhodesian security forces and at least 6,000 guerrillas, some 2,500 of whom are inside the country. In addition, an estimated 1,200 mercenaries (some 500 Americans, 500 Britons, and 200 others) are thought to be operating within the Rhodesian security forces.

The experts here say that any attempt to disarm these conflicting forces — should that prove necessary — would require a UN force at least three times the size of those it had to disarm or risk a devastating setback.

Which countries willing?

The net effect, these experts say, is to leave the strong impression of dangerously muddled thinking, whereas all their previous experience warns them that it is essential for such a force to have a crystal-clear mandate.

Quiet soundings nonetheless are going ahead to see which countries might be prepared to contribute troops to a UN Zimbabwe force.

The Nigerians, with their 230,000-strong post-civil war army and their plentiful oil revenues, have offered to provide the bulk of the force. Other African nations, however, are thought to be less than happy to see a large-scale African contingent in a force having such a "mission impossible."

The Scandinavians, a strong element in most UN peace forces, also have been consulted, but their attitude is not known. Rumor here has it that the Indians, with an army of 900,000, may be called on to carry a large part of the troop burden, perhaps under British command.

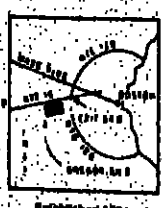
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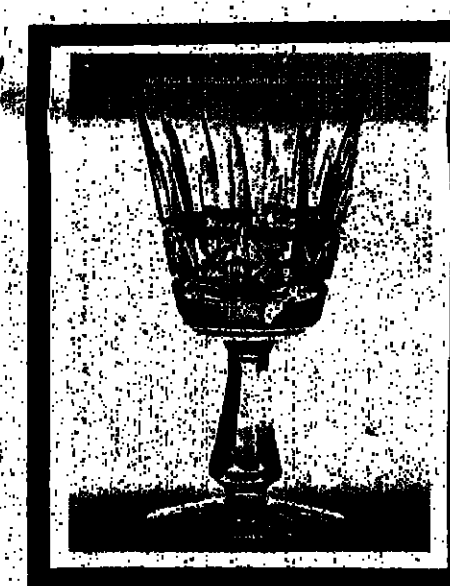
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Javits sees oil cost peril

By Reuters
Washington

The world could face a severe depression within two years if the growing debt of industrial countries resulting from higher oil prices is not stopped, a U.S. senator has warned.

Jacob Javits (R) of New York told the Senate Banking Committee recently that the main cause of the economic slump would be continued payments of \$40 billion or more a year by developed countries to members of the Organization for Petroleum Exporting Countries. Other factors would be continued high unemployment and inflation and loss of confidence by investors that debts would be repaid, he said.

French Left, Right falter as they jockey for position

By Jim Browning
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

Paris
It has been two years since Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac threw France's ruling coalition into turmoil by resigning as prime minister. The government has not fully recovered.

Six months remain before the decisive parliamentary election in March, and the governing parties are still in often bitter disagreement over tactics and policies.

But although the Socialist-Communist opposition coalition is widely favored to capture the reins of power in the March elections, it is as divided as the governing parties.

Both sides now are preparing for a showdown this fall — not between Left and Right, but between the Communists and Socialists on the one hand, and the Gaullists and Giscardians on the other.

The French returned from rain-soaked August vacations to find that the political competition has already begun. Prime Minister

Raymond Barre, leader of the groups closely allied to President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, has been the target of attacks.

Mr. Barre has delivered a series of speeches across France, defending his economic austerity policy. Mr. Chirac, who sees austerity as the government's most unpopular trademark, has begun his own series of speeches, warning of the dangers of communism, criticizing the Prime Minister, and calling for a "new majority" and a "new national will."

As the prospect of political power has become increasingly real to the left-wing opposition, the Socialist and Communist Parties have found it almost impossible to agree on how they will run the country if elected.

Leaders of the Left began meetings in early summer aimed at updating the "Common program of government," which they adopted in 1972. The discussions were to lay the ground work for a symbolic "summit of the Left," at which Socialist leader François Mitterrand and

Communist leader Georges Marchais would launch the electoral platform.

But instead of working out their differences, the two top left-wing leaders have spent the summer accusing each other of bad faith and hardening their positions. They have evolved complicated disagreements over how to nationalize certain major industries and banks, how much to increase social benefits and salaries, in what form to maintain France's nuclear deterrent system, and how to divide up Cabinet positions if they win control of the government.

The result is that neither the center-right government nor the left-wing opposition has been able to take advantage of its opponents' divisions.

The Left is expected to paper over its disputes with a general compromise at its summit conference this month, but differences over details are likely to continue to harm the Left's credibility.

The government parties are about to complete negotiations on a common "manifesto" to counter the Left's common program.

Black jobs needed

Carter's threefold political troubles

By Harry H. Ellis
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Washington
President Carter's political troubles are thrown into bold relief by three converging events: the latest unemployment figures, a grilling of his Budget Director Bert Lance in Congress, and a star-studded signing of the Panama Canal treaties.

News that last month unemployment among black Americans rose to 14.5 percent — more than twice as high as the white jobless rate — comes on the heels of widespread criticism that Mr. Carter is neglecting black needs.

Stung by the August jobless report — including the fact that 40.4 percent of black teenagers cannot find work — the President ordered a special report on black unemployment to be on his desk by Sept. 7, when he meets with the congressional black caucus.

That same day, Congress will open the first of three committee hearings into the tangled banking affairs of Mr. Lance.

Bert Lance problems

The President's problems over the "Bert Lance affair" are twofold:
• The bumpy Budget Director, before the banking alarm broke over his head, had been leaning hard on government agencies, telling them they would have to pare spending requests for fiscal 1979, as a step toward balancing the budget in 1981.

Now the effectiveness of Mr. Lance as point man for the President's determination to balance the federal budget is greatly diminished.
• Mr. Carter's own credibility suffers, as he appears — from his public statements — to condone, by supporting Mr. Lance's banking practices, including massive overdrafts, which would land ordinary citizens in hot water.

At first blush President Carter's signature Sept. 7 on two new Panama Canal treaties would seem to be a diplomatic triumph, elevated into a spectacular pageant with the presence in Washington of at least 19 hemispheric heads of state or government.

Presidential prestige committed

In fact, Mr. Carter commits his prestige indelibly to passage of the treaties through a skeptical Senate, plus House approval of those aspects of the pacts involving a turnover of American property and money to Panama.

Standing in the wings are two other major foreign policy issues — disagreement between the United States and the Soviet Union on arms limitations and rising Arab-Israeli tension over



By Barth J. Falkenberg, staff photographer

Presidential prestige on the line

Washington
Relations between Latin America and the third world will be affected for a generation by the fight over the Panama Canal treaties which President Carter signed here on the evening of Sept. 7 and which then went to the U.S. Senate.

Mr. Carter arranged a glittering signature ceremony, with a state dinner and meetings with leaders and delegates of 23 Western Hemisphere nations. In effect, he said to senators who returned after summer recess, "You reject it at your peril."

Under the Constitution, a two-thirds majority of the Senate is required to ratify the treaties. Thirty-four members can block it. At present, the question turns on how many converts Mr. Carter can make between now and January when the vote may be taken.

These factors point up the difficulty of the task facing the President:

• A Gallup Poll indicates slightly more Americans presently oppose the treaty than favor it.

• Attorneys general of four states — Iowa, Indiana, Idaho, and Louisiana — have filed suit in the U.S. Supreme Court arguing that the agreement gives away U.S. property by treaty, and that such action requires an act of the full Congress.

• Democratic Senate leader Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia has not yet committed himself to the treaty.

• Resentment over U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam is found to be transferred by some Americans to relinquishment of control over the canal. One treaty would, however, give the U.S. permanent power to ensure the canal's neutrality, including the right of intervention.

• Panama will hold a plebiscite on treaty ratification.

A crucial U.S. factor in the emotional ar-

gument now shaping may be the advice by the Joint Chiefs of Staff that the only practical way of keeping the canal open is by treaty.

The joint chiefs deny the charge of canal critics that they are merely going along with their commander in chief as a matter of loyalty. While the canal cannot take the largest ships, they say, it is still important to the U.S. and other nations, but it is exposed and vulnerable. Seventy-five percent of the 13,000 canal workers are Panamanians, and some experts say any one of them with a hand grenade might damage a lock and close the canal.

Conservative Republicans lead the fight against the treaty. Among these are Rep. Reagan and Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina and Jesse Helms of North Carolina. Veterans and other patriotic groups support them. Lines remain blurred, however; conservative Republican Barry Goldwater of Arizona, for example, supports the treaty, as do Gerald Ford and Henry Kissinger.

U.S. treaty negotiator Ellsworth Bunker compares the coming treaty fight with that in 1919 against the League of Nations. Few treaties of similar importance, he said, have ever faced the prospect of such emotional debate. The Senate rejected the League when supporters could not forge a two-thirds majority behind a formula for adherence.

Woodrow Wilson had his views on Panama, too.

In the 1912 Democratic textbook Wilson declared, "Our acquisition of the Panama Canal Zone has been a scandal since the day of the 'revolution' of Nov. 3, 1903. . . . In every country to the south of us we are distrusted, feared, hated."

The Carter administration is making quiet efforts to enlist commercial interest for the treaty, arguing that rejection would alienate Latin and third-world countries.

In Panama, meanwhile, a small Communist Party opposes the treaty on the ground that it conceals a more sinister "Yankee imperialism."

Panama Canal pact churns up emotions

Carter must dig up support in Senate; Bunker recalls League of Nations fight

By Richard L. Strout
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Washington
Relations between Latin America and the third world will be affected for a generation by the fight over the Panama Canal treaties which President Carter signed here on the evening of Sept. 7 and which then went to the U.S. Senate.

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A crucial U.S. factor in the emotional ar-

Carter's British heritage

By Reuters

London
President Carter is being too modest by describing himself as a man of the people — his ancestors include North America's first great land baron, "King" Carter, according to a British genealogist.

H. B. Brooks-Baker, managing editor of Dehret's peerage, a standard reference work on the British aristocracy, says his staff traced Mr. Carter's family back to Kings Langley, 25 miles north of London.

Mr. Brooks-Baker said the President was not just an intelligent man who has done well for himself. He came from one of the more significant families in the English-speaking world. Many of his ancestors had reached positions of immense importance and power over the past six centuries.

There was no immediate reaction from the White House to Mr. Carter's unexpected grand ancestry, which includes connections with George Washington.

According to Dehret's researchers, the Carter family had already produced a string of successful landowners in England before the brothers Thomas and John Carter emigrated to the colony of Virginia in the 17th century.

'Son of Sam': Scotland Yard may have caught him sooner

By Ward Morehouse III
Staff correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

New York
If the "Son of Sam" had committed his series of murders in London instead of New York he might have been caught sooner.

Fingerprints are the clue.
New Scotland Yard's space-age fingerprint identification system compares partial fingerprints left at the scene of a crime with a computerized list of fingerprints of known criminals. With a quick match-up, London bobbies could have at least determined that the murderer had no prior record, thus narrowing somewhat the field of suspects. Then they could have gone searching among those with no records.

But the New York police were still checking criminal fingerprints when David Berkowitz, the man who has admitted being the "Son of Sam," was arrested as the result of being traced to a traffic ticket in the area of one of the murders. Police had not switched full manpower to looking for those with no prior records.

Police here had obtained latent prints from a letter to New York City police Capt. Joseph Borelli that was left at the scene of the April 17 murders in the Bronx of Valentina Surimi and Alexander Esau.

Using antiquated hit or miss manual methods, New York police fingerprint experts toiled in seven-day-a-week shifts trying to match 5,000 individual fingerprints against those on the letter. But they had no success with this time-consuming method because Mr. Berkowitz had no prior criminal record.

Mr. Berkowitz was indicted for murder by a Bronx grand jury, reportedly on the basis of fingerprint fragments on the letter to the police captain.

Cmdr. G. Lamborne of New Scotland Yard — headquarters for London's metropolitan police — told this newspaper in a telephone interview that police there have a computer capable of comparing latent (scene-of-the-crime) prints with 2½ million prints taken from Britain's criminal file which police have encoded on computer.

Commander Lamborne explained that the computer, which is fed bits of data distinguishing a particular print, narrows

down possible match-ups between latent prints and prints on file. After this electronic weeding-out process is completed, police experts make whatever final match-ups are necessary.

Because of privacy restrictions, however, no "civil" fingerprints — such as fingerprints of military personnel — are placed in Scotland Yard's computer.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) officials in Washington told the Monitor that even if U.S. law-enforcement officials eventually should have a computer capable of identifying latent fingerprints, "evil" files probably will never be computerized because of privacy considerations and costs.

The lack of computerized civil fingerprint files would rule out the matching up of the fingerprints of people like Mr. Berkowitz, who was only fingerprinted when he joined the U.S. Army.

Despite its inability to trace latent prints by computer, the FBI by October, 1980, expects to put some 14.5 million criminal fingerprints, now in the bureau's criminal file, into a new computer fingerprint scanner which would be able to read prints electronically at high speeds.



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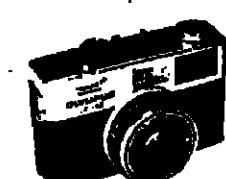
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United States

Carter tiptoes toward quieter diplomacy

By Daniel Southerland
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Washington
With new strategic arms talks with the Soviet Union on the horizon, the Carter administration has made a clear shift from open to quiet diplomacy.

While this change in tactics may enhance the chances for improving relations with the Soviet Union, it may leave a gap in the public's knowledge of where matters stand on that most vital of issues: how to contain the U.S.-Soviet nuclear arms race.

[The strategic arms talks scheduled for September in Vienna between Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko now have been postponed to the second half of September when Mr. Gromyko comes to the United States for the opening of the United Nations General Assembly.]

The shift toward quietness in the public forum can be seen across the board — from administration policy toward China and Rhodesia to the Middle East. On the latter subject, Sec-

retary of State Vance has repeatedly declined to reveal details of U.S. proposals for a peace settlement while attempting to bring the Arabs and Israelis close to agreement.

Public explanations

But administration officials say that President Carter and other officials intend to continue doing more than the previous administration did to explain its diplomatic moves in a straightforward way and to continue speaking out openly on human rights from time to time, even if it offends the Soviets.

Now, however, the administration seems to have struck a balance between its concern for human rights and "openness" on the one hand and, on the other, the "realities" of foreign policy which seem to call for considerable restraint in the public statements emanating from Washington.

Officials argue that this is an advance toward prudence, not a retreat toward deviousness. It is simply a result of hard experience, a part of the maturing of a young administration, they say.

Nowhere is the greater emphasis on quiet diplomacy more evident than in relations with the Soviet Union.

Although no high-ranking U.S. official is likely to admit publicly to a major change, the administration has become less vocal in recent months in its criticism of the continuing Soviet crackdown on dissidents.

President Carter told a group of editors and news directors two months ago that he had been surprised by the Soviets' adverse reaction to the U.S. stand on human rights and that this had provided a greater obstacle to other pursuits, such as the search for a new SALT agreement, than he had anticipated.

While there is disagreement within the administration over the degree to which the U.S. position on human rights might have affected the prospects for SALT, there is considerable agreement that it was poisoning the "atmosphere" in U.S.-Soviet relations. With the more restrained approach taking hold in the Carter administration, the atmosphere, at least, seems to have improved.

Middle East, to assume inflexible public positions. This encourages deadlock rather than negotiation.

As one official pointed out, whenever President Carter speaks on the Middle East situation in a public forum, it has widespread reverberations in the Middle East itself. Leaders there feel compelled to comment and then find it difficult to back away from their public pronouncements because any retreat from publicly stated positions might look like appeasement.

'Code words'

President Carter has also learned that certain Middle East "code words," such as "Palestinian homeland," may sound innocent to American ears but carry tremendous emotional connotations when heard in the Middle East.

The State Department says the date of the Vance-Gromyko meeting was changed because Mr. Vance wanted to be in Washington for the signing Sept. 7 of a new Panama Canal treaty and for meetings with the Latin American leaders who were there for the occasion.

Other sources suspect, however, that while treaty-signing may have been a consideration in the U.S. decision to postpone the Vance-Gromyko meeting, another consideration may have been the persistence of strong disagreement with the Soviets over proposals for strategic arms limitations.

Given the more restrained style of the Carter administration at the moment, it may not be easy to determine where things stand with the Soviets. Some sources suggest that the administration itself is uncertain and is declining detailed comment in order to avoid raising expectations of progress which may only be shattered at a later date.

'Damaging leaks'

Other reasons for the shift toward more quiet diplomacy toward the Soviet Union — and other countries — has been growing concern over what are considered to be "damaging leaks" of information on national security questions, which, administration officials contend, have been reported out of context.

State Department officials have at the same time grown more cautious because of what they consider to be a generally "bad press" on recent trips by Secretary of State Vance — "missions impossible," they've been called in some press reports.

Finally, there is the realization on the part of the administration that open diplomacy of ten forces parties to a conflict, such as in the

Pressure grows for budget director to go

By Godfrey Sperling Jr.
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Washington
President Carter persists in his intention to let his beleaguered budget director, Bert Lance, state his defense in open, televised congressional hearings.

But the view from Washington is that Mr. Lance's days are numbered.

Fervent voices from Congress are seeking to prevail on Mr. Carter to ask his budget director to resign or step aside until hearings are over.



Lance: Washington days are numbered

Analysis

Sens. Abraham A. Ribicoff (D) of Connecticut and Charles H. Percy (R) of Illinois, chairman and vice-chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, have urged the President to have Mr. Lance resign, saying they have in hand "allegations of illegality" against him.

And the Senate majority leader, Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, has told the President that Mr. Lance has become a serious liability to the Carter administration.

The basic reason the Lance case won't go away, as both Messrs. Carter and Lance have been hoping, is that the President, during his campaign, voiced a particularly high standard of ethics and excellence for himself, one that was instrumental in gaining the public favor that carried him into the White House.

Most of the private Lance financial dealings are too complicated for the average person to fully understand. Opinion samplings show the public does have a good grasp of what bank overdrafts are all about. Many citizens do not quite comprehend how Mr. Lance could get away with such big overdrafts while they bank officials who have they pay them in their accounts just a little.

Politicians at both the local and Washington level feel their constituencies are questioning whether this is the kind of man who is likely to show prudence and care in the shaping of the nation's budget and overall economy.

In 1974 Mr. Carter, according to Robert W. Turner's book of "Carter quotations," talked about high standards while addressing the Southern Baptist Convention.

"The standards of government," he said, "should exemplify the highest attributes of mankind and not the lowest common denominator. There is no legitimate reason for different standards in our home, our office, our church, or our government. In every component of life we should continually strive for perfection as commanded by God."

As a candidate Mr. Carter struck a similar theme before audiences all over the country.

While few voters recall exact words, many now appear to be comparing the Lance record with the Carter standards — unfavorably.

Continuing political checks show that Mr. Carter's widespread public support rests on one basic element: a perception that he is a moral man, a very good man, a highly religious man, and one whose ethical standards are above reproach.

Mr. Carter's promise to the American people was "I'll never lie to you." This, in a few words, told the people that he would bring in a fresh new breed of post-Watergate morality.

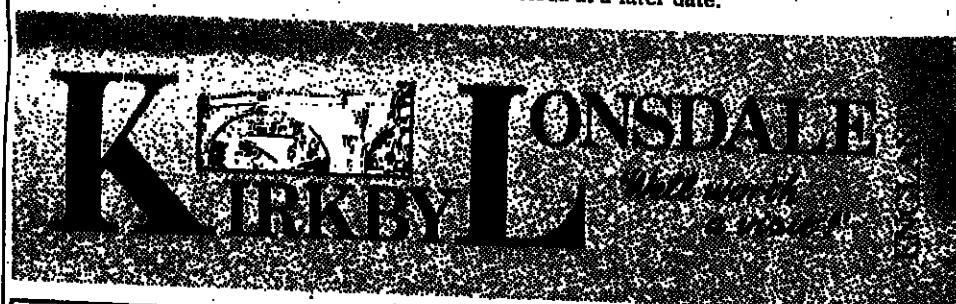
The public liked the strong moral tone in so much of what Mr. Carter said during the campaign, particularly in the vision he saw for America.

For example: "I see an America poised not only at the brink of a new century, but at the dawn of a new era of honest, compassionate, responsive government."

And: "I see an America that has turned away from scandals and corruption and official cynicism and finally become a government as decent as her people."

With such statements Mr. Carter set an admirably high-principled standard for his presidency. It was expected, in large part, on the strength of his exceedingly clean image and of what it promised for the nation's future.

It follows that many voters believe that a president who came in largely on the basis of the post-Watergate morality must now live by that same morality.



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Middle East

Egypt's Mideast course: driving under the yellow flag

By John K. Cooley
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Athens

Egypt appears to be sticking to caution and moderation in lining up a clear, multi-national Arab position on the Palestinian question and Israeli settlements in occupied Arab territories.

At last weekend's meeting of the Arab League's foreign ministers council in Cairo, Egypt turned down proposals by Syrian Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam for urging drastic sanctions against Israel at forthcoming

United Nations sessions. The Syrians wanted to revive the old Arab project for severe economic measures and expulsion of Israel from the UN.

In rejecting the Syrian idea, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy argued that it was essential to distinguish what is possible from what is not possible. Further, he said, it was necessary to reach unanimity if possible on how to deal with Israel's declared policy of continuing to build Jewish settlements in the Arab lands taken in 1967, according to Cairo Radio.

The Syrian proposal was pigeonholed and the

Arab League council's decision was similar to many others on past occasions: it set up a committee — this time to coordinate Arab moves against the Israeli settlement policy.

UN session near

Mr. Fahmy and other Arab foreign ministers are due in the United States by mid-September for the new UN General Assembly session. Arab leaders also hope to press their case there for including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) — rejected by Israel as a negotiating partner — in any future revived Geneva peace conference.

Syria's renewal of the old and nearly forgotten Arab proposal to expel Israel from the UN, and other signs of renewed Syrian militancy, were described by commentators in the Arab world as new indications of Syrian President Assad's growing impatience with the stalled American Mideast peace offensive.

Both Israel and the PLO have rejected President Assad's suggestion, made in a recent interview with the New York Times, that it might have been possible to have the Arab League represent the Palestinians at a peace conference. Commentaries were favorable to the idea in Jordan and noncommittal in Egypt.

On Sept. 1, Egyptian President Sadat's main Arab rival, militant Libyan leader Col. Muammar al-Qaddafi, told audiences on Libya's Revolution Day in Tripoli, Libya, that fighting last July between Libyan and Egyptian forces was a real tragedy.

A nod to Sadat?

To some observers, the tone of the Libyan leader's remarks indicated that Colonel Qaddafi, by putting the burden of blame on an Israeli-American conspiracy, was trying to extend a hand to Mr. Sadat.

But despite a recent exchange of prisoners and some other moves to ease tensions initiated by PLO chairman Yasser Arafat before Mr. Arafat visited Moscow last week, Mideast analysts saw little prospect of a genuine Egyptian-Libyan reconciliation before the new UN debates begin later this month.

Libyan television and radio announcers, describing large Soviet-made surface-to-surface missiles paraded in Tripoli for the first time in the Sept. 1 military parade, described them as missiles which can fly across borders, intended to aid the Arab struggle to regain Palestine. This could be read as a threat to Egypt as well as to Israel.

Israeli opposition party scolds Begin

By Jason Morris
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

Jerusalem

In the first comprehensive onslaught on the diplomatic performance of Israel's new right-wing government, the opposition Labor Party has accused Prime Minister Menachem Begin of:

1. Evading the need to make territorial concessions to the Arabs in return for peace.

2. Papering over an obvious rift with the United States by acting as if it did not exist.

The attack was made in the Knesset (Parliament) Sept. 1 by Labor Party leader Shimon Peres, former Defense Minister and his party's candidate for the premiership in the May election which resulted in victory for Mr. Begin's Likud coalition.

Mr. Peres upbraided Mr. Begin for declaring that everything is negotiable after having campaigned for election on a platform describing the occupied West Bank of the Jordan as inseparable from pre-1967 Israel.

"Peace has a price," Mr. Peres declared, "for the Jews as well as for the Arabs."

Challenging a statement made Aug. 31 by Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon, a superhawk, that there can be no withdrawal in the occupied Golan Heights (on the border with Syria), Mr. Peres asked the Likud deputies if they really believed that peace could be achieved without territorial compromise.

The Knesset had interrupted its summer recess to hear reports from Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and from Mr. Begin on his recent trip to Romania.

Mr. Dayan admitted there was disagreement between the U.S. and Israel over the establishment of Jewish settlements in the occupied areas and over Washington's willingness to accept the Palestine Liberation Organization as a partner in the negotiating process.

He reiterated the government position that Jews cannot be denied the right to live anywhere in the land of Israel despite the U.S. view that their entry into the occupied zone violates the fourth Geneva convention.

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Soviet Union

Sasha toddles off to school amid cheers

By David K. Willis

Staff correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

Moscow
The shoes and the bag were brown and new. The uniform was dark blue. The scarf was red, the shirt white, the large bouquet yellow, white, and blue. The expression: solemn.

Thus equipped, 10-year-old Sasha slowly made his way through a cheering crowd of parents to meet his new fourth-grade teacher inside Moscow Secondary School No. 185.

He was one of more than 45 million Soviet schoolchildren to return to class Sept. 1 amid a national outpouring of pride, publicity, statistics, and some complaints.

The Soviet press insists that every third person in the Soviet Union is a student. It bases this on a figure of 93 million citizens studying at various types of lower and higher schools and institutes.

The Soviet population is 257 million. The Tass news agency uses these figures to criticize the United States. It says American education is expensive. Besides, according to official data, 23 million Americans over the age of sixteen are illiterate, it says.

This is because capitalism bars access of the working people to education and culture, Tass said Aug. 31.

A charge for textbooks . . .

Yet education in the Soviet Union is virtually free, the agency reported. It costs the state 1,000 rubles (\$2,208) to educate a child through 10th grade, but families pay only 2 rubles, 85 kopecks (\$3.89) for textbooks, Tass said.

Soviet parents agree the cost is low, but add that they themselves pay 4 rubles, 50 kopecks (\$9.20) a month for lunches, and also buy uniforms, sports clothes, skis, skates, musical instruments, etc. In addition, they contribute toward the cost of classroom and building repairs.

Part of the pride stems from the 60th anniversary this year of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution. The new state Constitution is also on the curriculum — and the new National Anthem, with



Yerevan, Armenia

Back to school — with uniforms running short

By Stewart Dill McBride

all references to Stalin edited out, was played to mark school opening.

The Communist youth newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda said Sept. 1 that 170,000 secondary schools opened that day, along with 4,300 specialized vocational and other schools and 881 universities and institutes.

The state spends 20 billion rubles a year (\$27.6 billion) for education, it said (more than the officially admitted Soviet defense budget of just over 17 billion rubles, or \$23.4 billion). There are some complaints, however. One loud one is that

compulsory school uniforms for boys, introduced in 1975, are again in short supply.

Komsomolskaya Pravda reported Aug. 14 that Moscow received little more than half of the 400,000 new uniforms it ordered. All were sold in one store (Children's World Downtown).

But no extra sales staff was provided. Lines were long and tedious. In Leningrad, the situation was reported even worse.

The newspaper sharply criticized those responsible.

Fresh Soviet food: it's there, but not on the table

By David K. Willis
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Moscow
For the average Soviet shopper, the problems of détente pale these days beside the difficulty in finding fresh cucumbers, watermelons, peaches, or tomatoes to buy.

It is harvest time. But, as lines stretch around corners and shoppers search cities daily for what they want, the Soviet press reports:

- Watermelons piling up in green mountains — 1,700 tons in all — at a single railroad station and in nearby fields for lack of railroad cars and trucks to take them to nearby cities.
- Some 500 tons of vegetables lying in the

open for two days near the Caspian Sea because a barge was late. When it arrived, workers took five days to load it.

- Boxes of cucumbers in lines a third of a mile long in some fields, waiting in vain for delivery trucks to carry them away.
- Perhaps 70,000 boxes of tomatoes rotting in fields near Volgograd while shoppers in the city itself could buy only spotted fruit.

- A Moscow newspaper (Moskovskaya Pravda) which decided to test official assurances that all was well in the city's 300 harvest-time vegetable stalls, found bad tomatoes, rotten peaches, dirty conditions, and assistants giving short weights in many stalls.

The newspapers were highlighting anew a basic problem facing Soviet farm officials: or-

ganizing efficient ways to get vegetables and fruit from field to market.

In a nation that covers one-sixth of the world's land area, and which wrestles with variable and chilly weather, it is a major and not yet fully solved problem which affects everyone who eats.

The Soviets lose as much as three times the amount of vegetables they actually produce each year because of transportation and other problems, some Western experts here estimate.

The situation is not all bad. Western estimates are that the total vegetable crop this year will be bountiful. Initial reports from some key potato-growing areas indicate above-quota harvests.

In fact one of the reasons transport problems are troublesome this year is because both grain and vegetable crops are so big.

Harvest pattern uneven

Unusual weather patterns have meant grain ripening unevenly across the Western U.S.S.R. combines and other harvesting equipment have found it even harder than usual to be in the right place at the right time. The U.S. Agriculture Department now estimates the grain crop at 220 million tons, just under last year's record 223.8 million tons but still a bumper crop.

Troubles getting it all in have spilled over into vegetables as well.

Soviet dinner tables have been hoping for better times this year since the quality of vegetables was generally poor last year. Shoppers flock to private markets, state stores, and harvest-time stalls. Most of the lines visible in the cities are for watermelons, potatoes, tomatoes, etc.

Potato crop high

Last year's total potato crop was poor — 14 percent below target at 85.1 million tons. The target this year — 101 million tons — may well be met, Westerners believe.

Other vegetables also were lower last year (23.5 million tons against a target of 28.2 million). The goal for this year is 27.1 million tons.

Likewise fruit last year was below target but goals remain high this year. One problem is that farmers make less profit selling vegetables to the state than selling grain and other crops. Western analysts think the authorities will have to change pricing policies before vegetable production begins to take off.

A long editorial Aug. 18 in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda praised the work of some farmers in this 60th anniversary year of the 1917 Revolution.

But it chastised farmers in other regions. It urged more special crates, the use of container transportation methods, and more railroad cars, especially refrigerated ones.

Recent editions of the newspaper Selkaya Zhizn (Rural Life) report a good potato crop around Moscow but problems elsewhere.



Russian peasant woman at her Moscow vegetable stall — with something to sell

Sven Birch

China

Foreigners welcome — at arms length

By Frederic A. Moritz

Staff correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

Peking

The pace suddenly slows to a steady, even gait. Movement seems unhurried after you cross the Lo Wu bridge. For this is China.

Forget the photos of teeming masses hurriedly forging steel and tilling fields. The aging villages look almost deserted from the train that rumbles northwest from the Hong Kong border to the city of Canton.

In Peking the bicycle sets the slow, deliberate pace. Lumbering buses and a few honking autos seem strangely out of place. In the early morning mist young boys and elderly men still turn out to practice the ancient, gracefully slow movements of Chinese boxing.

The foreigner who prods a Chinese guide for some concession to the fast, impatient pace of the West hears the refrain, "That is not in accordance with our practice."

To a visiting American newsmen, China still seems a world apart. It focuses inward. As it has for centuries, it continues to resist the inroads of the outside world.

Foreigners are assigned special guides, special hotels, spe-

cial train cars, and special dining rooms. The treatment they receive is efficient and polite. But almost always they are kept at arm's length.

"Accept our practice," the Chinese seem to be saying in a constant reminder that the days of dictation by foreign soldiers, diplomats, and bankers are gone.

Banners, slogans, and parades proclaim that the Communist Party rules. But it rules with a flavor that is distinctly Chinese.

The drums beat and cymbals clash in well-organized street demonstrations. Regardless of politics, "we Chinese like noisy celebrations" is a refrain with which Chinese almost anywhere in the world will agree.

Everywhere one sees the youthful-looking, khaki-clad soldiers of the People's Liberation Army. Their loosely tailored uniforms are somewhat reminiscent of the casually fitting "pajama" style dress worn by Chinese a century ago.

So do the baggy-styled trousers worn by the masses of men and women as a sign of Communist austerity.

Faces are often serious, but a foreigner who wanders alone through neighborhood alleys meets many smiles. In both Peking and Canton people look well-nourished and healthy.

Some consumer goods obviously are in short supply. In Canton, customers line up with ration books to await their turns for flour, oil, and rice. Other stores occasionally are crowded, but without the lines.

In Peking, some foreign visitors say the clothes worn today are more colorful than those of five years ago. But the exhibits in many shop windows are of prized and relatively expensive colored blouses and shirts that contrast starkly with the plain white ones worn on the street by most people.

Precision-made items like watches sell for high prices in a country where wages vary between \$25 and \$50 a month. In one Peking store the cheapest watch went for about \$60 and the most expensive (an imported Rolex) for \$510. Chinese watches are more expensive in China than when exported to Hong Kong, which suggests the priority is on building an export market to earn foreign exchange.

A standard lightweight, one-speed bicycle sells for \$95 in the capital, a massive expenditure considering the Chinese wage. But housing rentals as low as \$3 a month and government-provided health services apparently allow many families to save their money. And of the enormous number of bicycles seen in Peking and Canton, many looked new.



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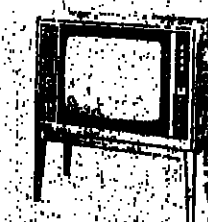
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From page 1

*Panama Canal treaty

they signed a "Declaration of Washington," supporting the neutrality concept.

Although this document lacks the legal force of the treaties themselves, which were signed by the U.S. and Panama, it would serve as a moral commitment. In Latin America such commitment may have as much force as a legal document.

The administration reasons that such a moral commitment from Latin American nations may help persuade some wavering voters and Senators that the treaties, taken together, will keep the Panama Canal operating as effectively as it does today.

But it is the extravagance quality of the occasion that the White House sees as the important element in the signing ceremonies. Not since the passing of former President Eisen-

hower have so many world leaders congregated on Washington at one time.

"The outpouring of Latin American support for the treaty," comments one top Washington official, "will certainly show the American public that Latin America supports what the negotiators from Panama and the United States have worked out. They would not be here otherwise."

The list of those who attended included Presidents Jorge Rafael Videla of Argentina, Hugo Boner Suárez of Bolivia, Augusto Pinochet Ugarte of Chile, Alfonso López Michelsen of Colombia, Daniel Oduber Quirós of Costa Rica, Joaquín Balaguer of the Dominican Republic, and Carlos Andrés Pérez of Venezuela, as well as Prime Ministers Tom Adams of Barbados,

Michael Manley of Jamaica, and Eric Williams of Trinidad and Tobago.

"It is what one might call an assembly of the hemisphere's top people of the moment," Alejandro Giral, secretary general of the Organization of American States (OAS), said.

Time will tell whether the enthusiasm of this "Latin American week in Washington," as the State Department aide called it, will be productive in winning U.S. support for the treaties.

But there is little doubt that the celebrations last Wednesday are drowning out the opposition to the treaties — at least for the moment. Although the administration knows it has a problem in winning widespread support for the treaties, the opponents of the treaties recog-

nize that they, too, have a problem.

While they enjoy a small but comfortable lead in the opinion polls, that lead could wither away as the administration gets out more support from people like former President Ford, former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, and AFL-CIO chief George Meany. The size of the opposition lead has already been cut.

Adding to the support column this week was New York investment banker Theodore Roosevelt IV, namesake of President Theodore Roosevelt who got the project to build the canal going at the turn of the century.

Opponents of the new treaties, who support the Treaty of 1903 which gives the U.S. perpetual control of the waterway and zone surrounding it, often invoke the name of Teddy Roosevelt in their campaign.

From page 1

*South Africa's black student revolt grows

The highly respected Institute of Race Relations here is issuing an appeal to South African Prime Minister John Vorster, "in the interest of national peace and security," to announce a definite date for repeal of the Bantu Education Act and to place all schools under either the provincial or national education authorities, that is, putting black and white schools under the same control.

The refusal of the students and parents to re-register for classes in recent days was a bitter blow for the white regional director for black education, Jaap Strydom. Mr. Strydom,

who had a fine record for his work in a black teachers' training school in Natal Province, was reportedly completely confident the children would re-register.

Simultaneously with the announcement of the latest black plan for schooling in Soweto, the Committee of Ten spokesmen said a Soweto Civic Association was being organized. Leaders, he explained, would be chosen from the 50 wards in Soweto to form a municipal government. "We are reshaping Soweto in our own way," he added.

The spokesman made it clear that the civic association would be developed on nonethnic or

tribal lines, in effect treating all blacks in Soweto as South African blacks. "This runs counter to the South African Government's policy of trying to attach homeland or tribal citizenship to urban blacks — a policy which is deeply resented by the younger generation in Soweto and elsewhere."

The Committee of Ten, under the chairmanship of Nkomo Mollana, came forward earlier this year as representative of the people of Soweto. It had its own proposals to restore calm to the troubled township and sought contact with the South African Government. But the

government scorned the committee and challenged its credentials — although there were members of the Cabinet who questioned this negative response. There are those here, black and white, who regret the government's refusal to deal with the committee because of its members' relative moderation.

While it may be possible to detect signs of government flexibility on other issues — such as constitutional changes to favor Indians and Coloreds (people of mixed race) — on Soweto there seems to be only a hardening of positions by both sides.

From page 1

*Tiny Taiwan: big bump in road to Peking

Mr. Teng was said to have told the executives that former President Ford promised him a visit 21 months ago that if elected he would follow the Japanese formula to solve the question of Taiwan. When Japan cut diplomatic relations with Taiwan in 1972 it ended official representation on the island but continued to

handle commercial and other matters through private offices.

According to Mr. Teng, President Ford was willing to meet the three Chinese demands: that diplomatic relations with Taiwan be broken, the U.S.-Taiwan defense treaty be ended, and some 1,200 American troops on the island be withdrawn.

Mr. Teng said that in Peking Mr. Vance discussed establishing full diplomatic relations with China, but proposed replacing the American embassy on Taiwan with a diplomatic liaison office such as now exists in Peking. Mr. Teng said that proposal was unacceptable because it would mean continued American diplo-

matic links with Taiwan.

The Vance mission was expected, indirectly at least, to sound out the Chinese on how they would react to continued arms sales to Taiwan. But, according to Mr. Teng, that question never came up while the Secretary was in Peking.

From page 1

*Pen and hand do not a signature make

Then I can't deny that the whole quality of the signature tends to vary with the circumstances. Depressed little squiggles on off-days, grandiose arabesques when the world is on my side. Not to mention the effect of the equipment and furniture involved.

Years ago, one had a single, faithful fountain pen that stayed in one's possession for years. You got accustomed to its nib and its feel, and so the signatures it produced were fairly uniform. Nowadays one seems to have a different cheap ballpoint in one's pocket every day, and no two ballpoints behave the same way in spite

of their mass production. Some run away with your hand at top speed, others grind into the paper like chisels, and occasionally they threaten to dry up in mid-signature and have to be coaxed along, letter by letter. Worst of all are the ballpoints that the banks themselves chain to their desks.

And there's the whole influence of where you write the cheque. I do quite a lot of travelling, so I often find myself trying to make out cheques in strange, suspicious banks that don't understand my problems in being me. The desks they provide along the walls (un-

der the racks of pamphlets offering, virtually, to give money away) are always too narrow to rest your forearm on. There is no surer way of producing an unconvincing signature than having your forearm sticking in mid-air as you try to write. Oh, wait a minute — there is one surer way: try writing a cheque with no desk at all, as you shuffle along the queue toward the cashier's window.

Ideally I should like a large oak table, at least three feet by five, with a comfortable writing chair (with arms) placed at right angles to a window looking onto a walled rose garden. And no cheque should be for any sum more alarming than three pounds and fifty pence. That way, I think I could achieve a smooth, uniform, relaxed G. F. Priestland every time. Even if, as usually happens, I was:

1. Worried about my credit balance.

2. Smiling at the cashier anyway.

3. Depressed at the state of the pound.

4. Vaguely unhappy about something I ate last night.

But as things are, with no rose garden, hopes and fears like these combine to produce wildly varying signatures every time. I know they do this, and so I begin to panic about what my real signature looks like. Dare I ask the manager of my home branch to let me borrow one of the specimen? I gave him years ago, so I can practice? Or would that create even worse impressions?

You see, I know I do my own signature all wrong. From the way they look at me in strange banks when I try to cash a cheque. Those nice, wholesome girls (that have to be shielded from the likes of me by impenetrable bullet-proof screens) retreat into the support trenches of their banks and cough into their horn-rimmed spectacles who please first at my

cheque, then at me, and give the sort of look that says "For that size of money, what does it matter if he is a forger?" I get my cash, but always with a kind of caution attached to it — Let's see a more plausible signature next time!

It only makes things worse that the banks have tried to help us all by introducing those little plastic cards entitling us to cash cheques for up to fifth pounds (used to be thirty) at any branch anywhere. For I defy you — unless your signature is normally squeezed into a narrow, and exactly horizontal strip — to inscribe a reliable specimen on the card your bank sends you. Mine looks like a 90-year-old's last testament.

Quite apart from the feeling I get that I am being set some awful catch question by the bank, the fact is that my normal signature (there is such a thing — which you and I are beginning to doubt) travels fairly steeply uphill from left to right, with what I consider a rather stylish whiplash underlining to set it off. None of this will fit onto the bank's nasty little plastic card with the panache, the generosity, due to a man of letters.

What the bank wants of me, judging from the spaces it provides, is the kind of name-rank-and-number-label that a good machine could supply. A machine that would be totally unaffected by the weather, its digestion or its relations with its fellow men. Oh, come now! I'm being unfair. Those impenetrable girls do their best. But surely it would help them, as well as us guilty and unworthy customers, if only the banks would carry identity to its logical extreme and include photographs on the cheque-cards. American driving licences do. And my left profile is something any girl cashier would trust at a glance.

Mr. Priestland is on the staff of the BBC.

Vote on Puerto Rico delayed

Small correspondence from the Christian Science Monitor

Puerto Rican and American leaders have been given a year's respite from the pressure in which to discuss the Caribbean island's future. That is the effect of the UN Committee on Decolonization's decision Sept. 8 to adjourn for a year rather than vote on a Cuban resolution calling for Puerto Rican independence.

The vote to adjourn represented a victory for quiet U.S. lobbying. The Cuban administration, like its predecessors, firmly maintains that the UN has no jurisdiction over the Puerto Rican issue. It emphasizes that the Puerto Ricans have had many opportunities to choose their own future. And that year, for the first time, virtually the full spectrum of Puerto Rican political opinion — instead of just the small pro-independence groups — came to New York to testify before the committee's earlier session Aug. 15-17. Representing views ranging from pro-independence to pro-commonwealth, these prominent Puerto Ricans all agreed that the present form of commonwealth status continued at least elements of colonialism.

The lack acceptance of a UN interest in Puerto Rico adds a new dimension to the long-recognized need to make some adjustments in the island's relationship with the United States.



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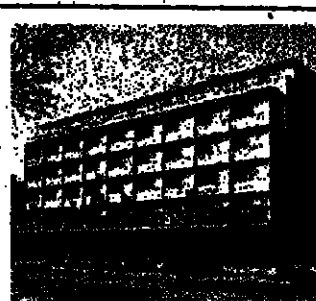


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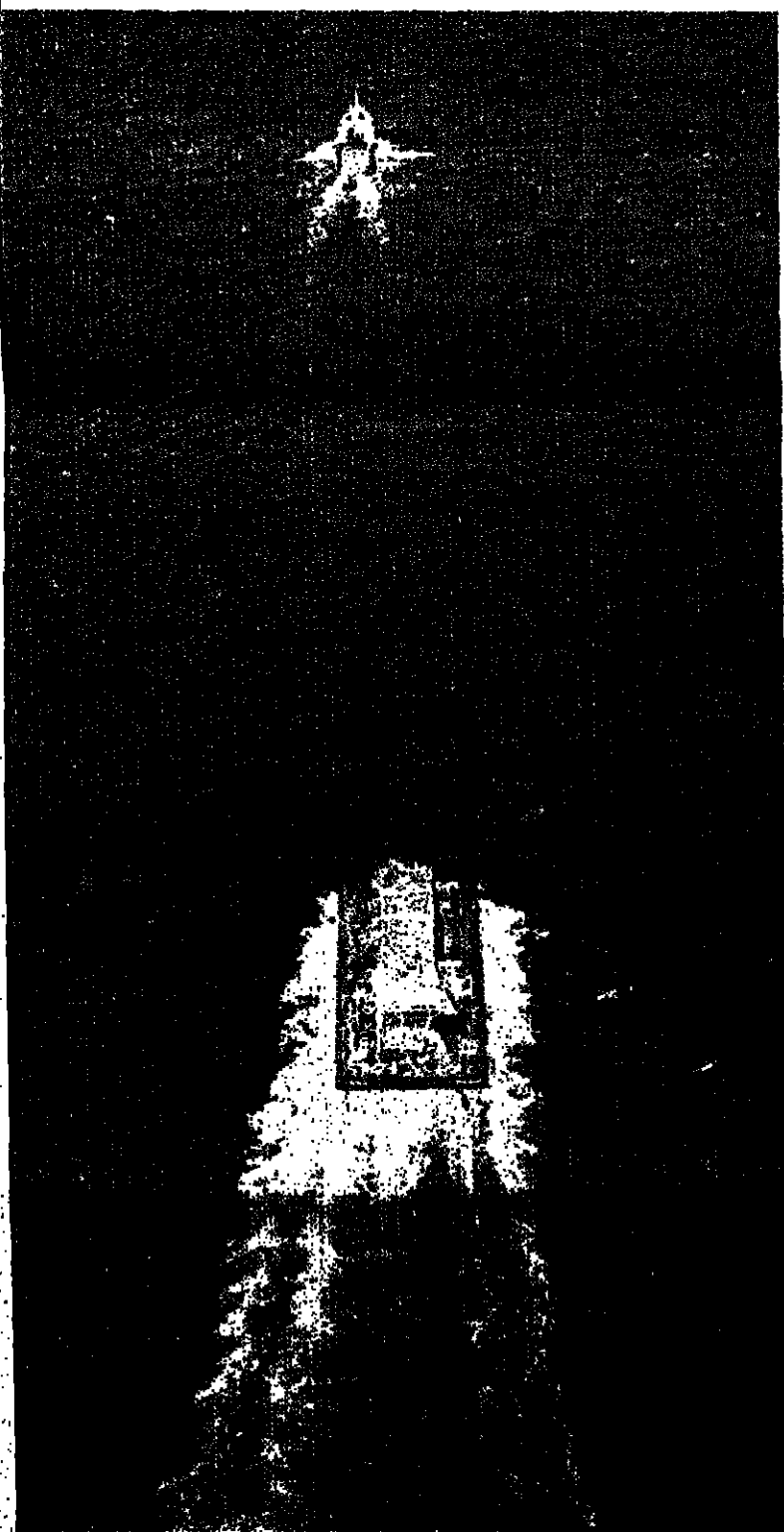
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Forties Delta, Forties Bravo, and Forties Charlie, three of the four production platforms in Forties Field complex, 106 miles from Aberdeen, Scotland

Wresting oil from a wild sea



Empty cargo boat hauls supply barge to production area



Helicopter drops to landing pad on Forties Delta



Offshore workers arrive by helicopter in Aberdeen for 14-day break

Photos and text by R. Norman Matheny
Staff photographer of The Christian Science Monitor

Forties Field, North Sea
The stormy reputation of this British offshore oil-drilling complex seemed exaggerated at first sight from 4,500 feet. High between the low clouds, we could see the clouds' shading across the glistening sea in playful patterns.

High overhead, the huge and expensive drilling platform below appeared little more imposing than ordinary diesel buoys anchored in a safe harbor.

As the pilot dropped to circle below the drilling-tower, violent downdrafts hit us. Our open window let in wind-temperatures barely above freezing.

Though our flight was made at the best of "weather windows," the sea swell was too severe for the cargo cranes aboard the supply boats standing by 100 feet below the platform's work levels.

Few weather and the 420-foot sea depth have been among the greatest challenges to overcome here. Only high oil prices make North Sea drilling a profitable venture.

The complex structure reaches 600 feet from seabed to top drilling derrick, and weighs 67,000 tons. This is roughly the length of the "QE2" ocean liner and 10,000 tons heavier.

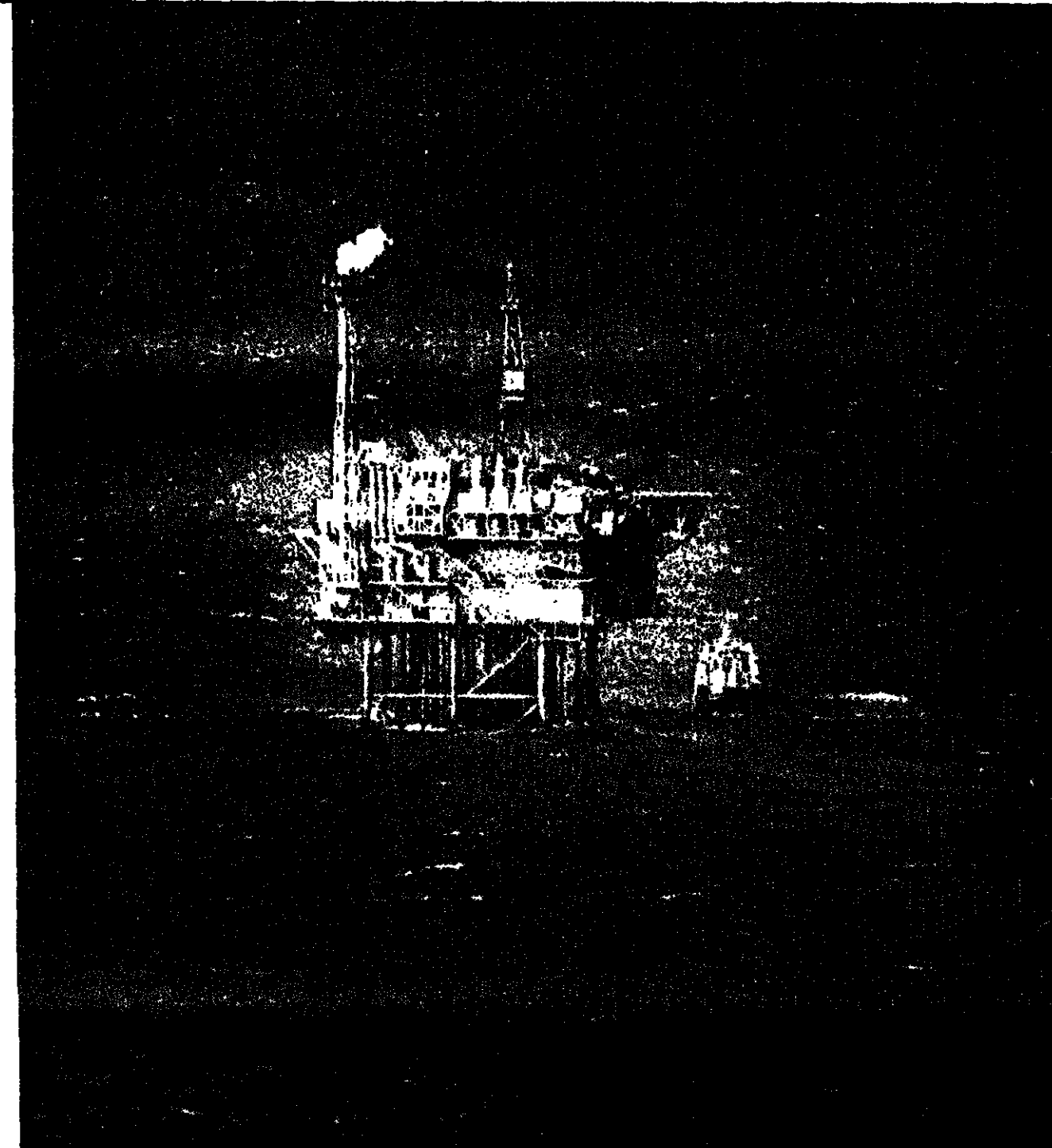
Each of the four drilling rigs spaced at three-mile intervals is 270 feet above the rough sea. The webwork steel structures are designed to withstand up to 94-foot waves in winds up to 100 miles an hour.

Booming out at all angles in all directions, 108 wells will be drilled to a depth of over two miles from the four platforms.

Each day, a helicopter hovered, then in a brief calm darted to the platform deck to shuttle some of the 60-man crew back to the 14-day break. The men earn their fortnight off working 14 days on 12-hour shifts. Salaries are about 1½ times what the same work will net ashore.

At the sea floor, a 32-inch pipeline carries the crude oil from Forties Field some 106 miles to shore at Cruden Bay, Scotland. A 130-mile, 36-inch land pipeline then runs to refinery at Grangemouth, near Edinburgh. Oil products are shipped by sea from Grangemouth — some already going as far as West Germany.

Production began in late 1976, and is still increasing toward a peak of 500,000 barrels a day. Resulting profits for Britain, after taxes and other returns are expected to give new life to the British economy. Hoped-for levels in the 1980s will produce excess over domestic needs, turning Britain into a net oil exporter. This could turn today's serious trade deficit into a favorable British trade balance.



Flame-off burns on Forties Charlie as crane unloads freighter from Aberdeen



Safety boat stands guard off Sea Quest exploratory drilling platform

National Theater: 'The Celts would have loved it'

By William Marlin
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

London
Sir Denys Lasdun, who got the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture recently, had not built a theater before, and that is an important reason why his first one, the National Theater, on the South Bank of the River Thames, is such a good show.

Not having memorized or written any handbooks, as a specialist in that genre might, Mr. Lasdun and his partners, Peter Soffley and Alexander Medhurst, did not have any technical aversions to grand, or aesthetic, canons to defuse.

First called in 13 years ago (these things can take forever), and working closely with a distinguished committee brought together at the say-so of Sir Laurence Olivier, the architects got right into the role of theater itself — that primordial relationship between one group of people looking at, and listening to, another group of people going at their lines and, hopefully, not bumping into each other. Except on purpose, naturally.

As of the middle 1960s, the whole purpose of theater, not to mention the nature of the places housing it, was up in the air, and, to be consistent about the matter, a lot of the places housing it were built to look that way. While the National is fundamentally fresh, and shows every sign of staying that way, it is not because Mr. Lasdun came up with just some old "new" thing.

There had been, it should be explained, a heady fascination for finite volumes of space, impeccably packaged, which, helped by a lot of ubiquitous mechanical equipment, might be made over anew, every morning, if need be.

Everything could move

Whole sections of seating might be soon to come and go. And whole sections of stage. Elaborate tracks of lighting might be made to assume a galaxy of different configurations. And overhead, big petals, like leaves of *Victoria Regia*, might be flapped, any which way, to adjust the acoustical accountability of the ceiling.

Elizabethan, post-Elizabethan, Experimental, or post-Experimental, seating a couple of hundred or a couple of thousand, any mix of actors, action, and audience might be housed.

If the technical and logistical problems of delivering a performance were all there is to theater, this fascination for the infinitely adaptable space would not have been so fleeting. But the idea assumed, wrongly, that a single room, even a single wonderful room, can be geared to all gradations of meaning, message, and image that compose the dynamic spectrum of theatrical expression. It was detecting the nature of that dynamic, and the inherent diversity within it, that absorbed the architects and, by way of them, the distinguished committee which, initially anyway, had been given to the idea of building one monumental architectural mutant.

Sketch after sketch, scheme after scheme,

and the conceptual estuary of the National was gradually revealed, and so skillfully that the committee had no reason to think that it had not changed its own mind: meanwhile, too, its members were providing insights that no half-lit handbook would deign to admit as "practical."

The result of this give-and-take is a congenial cluster of spatial characterizations — three individual theaters, and each functionally flexible, within its unique format. The National is not, borrowing a symbol from Stephenie Malmer, a beautiful swan with its wings caught in a frozen lake — that of functional and technical determinism. It is a graceful grouping, here by King's Reach, where the Thames turns sharply to embrace a vista from Parliament to St. Paul's — and one can make out each one as a discreet yet identifying element of Mr. Lasdun's larger composition.

Composition 'pure city'

That composition is pure city. Precision-poured concrete, and some of the best work of its kind anywhere, is the primary grammar of construction. The Celts would have loved it, and, had they concrete, probably would have built it.

But the National is pure city in another vital respect — the city as a composite of meetings, encounters, experiences, and overlapping interaction. Simultaneously and spontaneously characterize the pure city's "repertoire"; without them, purity is a euphemism for atrophied emotion in the same sense that abundance can be one for organized avarice.

The National is all "repertoire," and a cogent interpretation of its range. Mr. Lasdun's concrete "strata," as he called them — or series of rock ledges — are not only levels of functioning, affable space but also of interdependent means of getting the messages of theater across — before one goes to the show, during the show, and afterward, too.

The largest theater here, the 1,150-seat Olivier, is like a big kettle drum inside, and, on the outside of the building, its auditorium and flytower rise high above the main entranceway, both anchoring and enhancing the general horizontal texture of the whole. The tiers of seating in the Olivier are arrayed at different angles and levels from each other, reaching forward on both sides of the acting area like enormous, loving arms. So it is quite a big room, as theaters go — and yet very intimate.

A two-tiered theater

As Glenn Loney, the professor and critic of theater, recently observed, experiencing the Olivier, "There is a feeling, in there, that you can really touch the actors, which is a way of saying that you can more immediately be touched by what they are doing, and you also feel, for all the people it can seat, that you're involved in a familial situation."

The 800-seat Lyttelton Theater, which shares the main entranceway with the Olivier, has two tiers of seating that are centered directly on a proscenium stage, the opening of which

can be adjusted for various scenery requirements. Much smaller than either of these is the 400-seat Cottesloe, its three tiers rising around the main-level seating on three sides of the room, with the fourth side left free for innovative stage arrangements, with a proscenium or without one.

The pitch of these three rooms sounds right, works right, looks right, and feels great. And "room" is really the word. There is a kind of nonchalant dignity about each, and, overall, what Mr. Lasdun calls his "Fourth Theater," those expansive, multi-leveled foyers and terraces that tie the building to the city and the view, is active with all kinds of people who, dropping by or at an afternoon, can grab a bite or just stroll here by the river.

Gradually, outdoor performances will become routine, along with assorted other cultural activities, such as art shows. So while the architects have seen to clear sight lines, technical adaptability, and pretty good acoustics inside, they also have seen to it that the visual, social, and human reverberations between the

building, its surroundings, and everyday people are gentle and engaging.

And all this, too, on a recurrently truncated budget which finally left room for the basics, barely, and absolutely none for arty afterthoughts.

Sir Denys Lasdun's team, straining to meet that budget, at least left room for the most ebullient, enduring basic — people wanting to come, presenting themselves to each other, as he explains it, and certainly to one of the richest cultural traditions of the West.

Here people do not have to strain to feel at home with that tradition; in fact, they can recognize its underpinnings in themselves.

England, it is endlessly reported these days, is supposed to be going down the drain, but if the public vigor and artistic adventure of the National Theater is what a nation cannot afford not to afford during rock-bottom times, maybe all of the West had better have a go. As one chap joked, at an opening here not long ago, "Now I know what it means to turn Thames up!"

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Intimacy is felt even in the National's large theaters. Photo by Donald M.

Victorian set for designer's modern furniture

By Nancy Iran Phillips
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

Lake Forest, Illinois

When an interior designer who designs furniture selects a Victorian house to show it in, what can be learned from his modernization techniques?

The question is answered by Angelo Donghia, designer of the new contemporary collection for Knoll Manufacturing Company, who wanted a Victorian setting in which to showcase his new billowy pieces of furniture.

"I wanted to prove that the collection has a whisper of traditional in it, and that because of this it relates to any traditional setting," Mr. Donghia said here. For that reason he chose a house more than 100 years old in Lake Forest's historical district, and worked with the owners, Mr. and Mrs. M. Thomas Lardner in restoring it.

The Lardners had begun by removing the canvas that previous owners had put on the walls of the dining room and painting them a shade of shrimp. Mr. Donghia continued with these pinkish tones.

"I wanted to keep the house simple, and to clean up and bring the backgrounds in the rooms to the way they'd been when the 1880s house was new," he explained.

This meant restoring the plaster to a smooth finish and fixing the molding. His contemporary touches also meant lightening the whole house.

"Victorian houses are dark, so I had the floors lightened, kept the walls pale, and used silver tea paper on the ceilings," Mr. Donghia explained. "I wanted to keep the integrity of the house, of its architecture, in which there were no flaws and to create the perfect background and add seating to expand on the architecture."

The furniture really had nothing to do with the background, he added, indicating that he believes that the furniture must "stand on its own sets of four feet, and the two look well together."

What are some of the lightening techniques? The floors in some cases were bleached and



White woodwork, pink walls and pale blue ceilings lighten living room of century-old house

then painted with a polyurethane sealer. In one room the color was changed in degrees, with the center of the floor lighter than the sections around it, creating an interesting pattern.

In an upstairs bedroom the floor was painted white to set off the navy blue walls and ceiling. Two colors in the fabric for the furniture were picked up in a checkered rug used in the room.

Everywhere, Mr. Donghia kept the woodwork white, another shift from the Victorian dark wood finishes. In most cases, he chose

white draperies. Much of the furniture in the setting was done in various shades of gray from fabrics he designed especially for it.

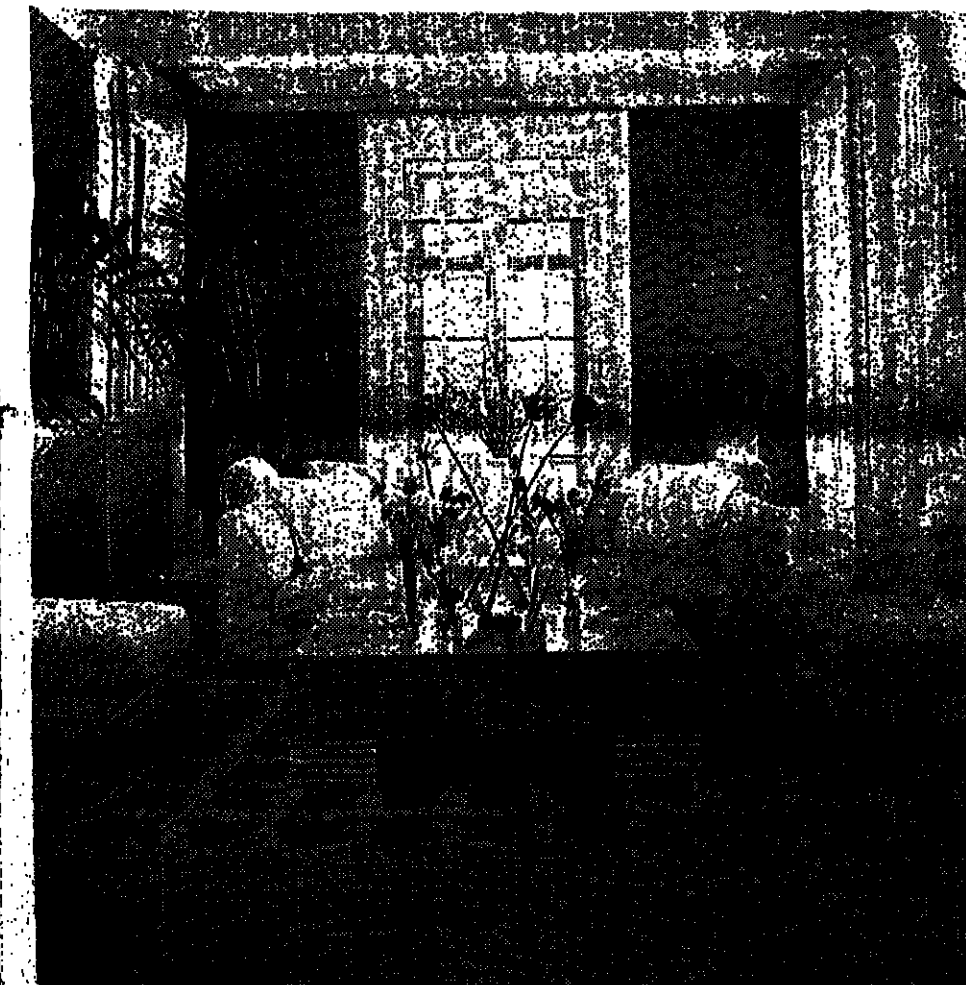
There are good ideas in the old-fashioned sunroom: Mr. Donghia had bamboo squares put on the walls instead of wallpaper. The texture is interesting, with striped, denim-like fabric used on the furniture and at the windows.

Throughout the house natural decorative items are used, such as the great stalks of tropical birds-of-paradise in the sunroom. In

the living room, fresh flowers are also used as handsome accents.

"I minimized the accessories," explained the designer, "because I wanted only useful items there — books, flowers, baskets, candles — things that let the room live."

How do the owners like what he did? Mrs. Lardner is delighted and plans to keep the house just as Mr. Donghia did it. In fact, she is going to keep some of the furniture, too, because she likes the timeless design of the total picture.



Sitting room with soft cream and white furniture

MONITOR RECIPE

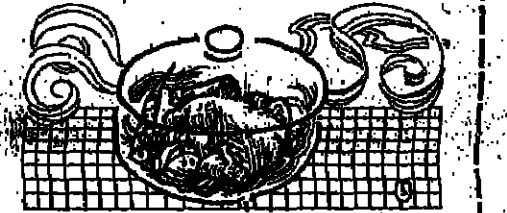
An old-fashioned way to cook chicken

How long has it been since you've served good old-fashioned fricasseed chicken? Broilers have become so plentiful and so much a matter of good eating that there is no reason to cook chicken for a long time as we did the stewing hen. But this is a good reason to cook it again. There is nothing like a well-cooked chicken with gravy.

Fricasseed Chicken

- 1 chicken, cut up
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 onion, sliced with a few cloves
- 1 carrot
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme or rosemary
- Salt to taste
- 4 tablespoons butter, melted
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 pint cream

Dust chicken with flour and brown lightly in some of the excess fat or by vegetable oil in the pot in which you plan to cook it. Add water to cover the chicken



and add onion, carrot, and seasonings. Bring to a boil, cover, then lower heat and simmer for about an hour or until tender with a fork. Don't overcook or meat will be dry.

When chicken is tender, remove to a hot dish and keep warm. Skim off any fat from broth and return to stove. Thicken with a roux made by blending flour and butter together. Add mixture to broth gradually, stirring constantly over low heat. Add cream and cook, stirring, until the mixture is thick and smooth. Transfer to deep serving dish; sprinkle with parsley. Serve with mashed potatoes, rice, or dumplings, or hot biscuits.

sports

Sue Barker: England's 'All American Girl'

By Ross Atkin
Sports writer of
The Christian Science Monitor

Chris Evert is seeded No. 1 in the current U.S. Open championships here. Martina Navratilova is No. 2 and Virginia Wade No. 3. Now for the trick question: who is No. 4?

If you happen to eat Yorkshire pudding, ride the "tube," and read the London Daily Telegraph, then perhaps you have correctly guessed that the mystery woman is Sue Barker of Great Britain.

A year or so ago, Evert called Barker the brightest young prospect on the circuit because of her intelligence, poise, and potent baseline game. But because Chris so dominates the women's tour, many people don't have the foggiest notion that Sue is now among the best female players in the world. On the Open's draw sheet, Billie Jean King, Rosemary Casals, and Betty Stove are all seeded below her.

Barker was voted the top rookie on the Virginia Slims tour in 1974. This past winter she won her first Slims tournaments, beating Wade in San Francisco and Terry Holladay in Dallas, and was a runner-up on four occasions, including a three-set loss to Evert in the tour's championship.

Because England produces so few world class players today, Barker's success has made her the darling of the British press. Wade, the Wimbledon champion, gets a lioness's share of the attention, of course, but Sue has been a very refreshing and likeable addition.

WomenSports magazine has called her "England's answer to the All-American girl." She neither smokes, drinks, nor swears. Her earnings have increased tremendously, but her hat size has stayed the same and her tastes modest. Navratilova used her new-found wealth to buy a house with a swimming pool in Dallas, but Sue's greatest extravagance was a \$300 coat.

Though mannerly and friendly, Barker keeps pretty much to herself. While other players may "paint the town" with a gaggle of friends, Sue seems just as happy writing letters, doing crossword puzzles, and enjoying some quiet hours. "I've got very deeply into thinking. Just sitting and thinking," she says.

Whenever she can, she goes home to Paignon, a seaside resort town about 200 miles southwest of London. There she visits her family, rides horses (her favorite recreation), and drops in on her coach, Arthur Roberts.

Roberts, a strict and demanding mentor who guided Angela Mortimer to the Wimbledon title in 1961, has been instrumental in Barker's tennis development. Instead of trying to remold



Sue Barker (right) after losing Wimbledon semifinal to Betty Stove

her strokes, he worked on improving the ones she had, particularly the rather unusual forehand she used in leading the Marxist Convent School to four schoolgirl championships.

"She's got big, strong, flexible hands," Roberts says. "She doesn't have to get her body into position. It's a freak forehand. Unique."

The shot is hit with the same sort of blistering power that Evert packs into her two-fluted backhand. And like Evert, Barker is best at the baseline, where she can drill ball after ball deep into the corners.

The decline of Britain's tennis stature during the postwar era has been attributed to assembly line coaching, a damp climate, and the scarcity of indoor courts (Philadelphia has more covered courts than all of Great Britain). That Barker has succeeded where others have failed bears on these points. She received individualized coaching in her formative years, and she had access to both outdoor clay and indoor wooden courts.

As a result of planting a natural athlete in these fertile conditions, the heir apparent to

Virginia Wade, queen of English tennis, has blossomed.

In 1976, Sue won the German championship and became the first British woman to win the French Open since Ann Jones did it in 1966. Those titles were secured, however, while most of the top women were in the United States playing World Team Tennis.

This summer, Barker signed on with the WTT's Indiana Loves and went through an arduous, disappointing season.

Through thick and thin, though, she never lost her composure. Her cool, calm, collected veneer disguises what used to be a volatile temper and has led some opponents to think she lacks the fire to win big. Roberts just says his protégée has never been "content to be second in queue."

Before long she'll overtake Wade in the English rankings (she has beaten her several times already). But whether she can ever go to the top in the Whole Earth Tennis Catalogue and withstand the pressures on her to win Wimbledon remains to be seen.

Soccer's U.S. success story

By David Anable
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

New York • A hot haze blurs the early-morning suburban Connecticut sun. Coach Jim Quigley watches intently from the sidelines. His second- and third-graders sprint and scamper tirelessly after the round ball, red shirttails flying, and dust rising from the hard, dry ground.

"In terms of activity, kids can't get any thing better than this," he says approvingly of his summer soccer camp.

• A threatening rumble of late evening thunder lingers over the artificial turf of New Jersey's Giants Stadium.

A roar drives the thunder as tens of thousands of arms shoot into the air. The crowd surges to its feet, shaking the huge amphitheater with cheers and whistles. A goal! The well-salaried stars of the New York Cosmos have scored again.

From the nation's quiet suburbs to its great urban sports arenas, the story is the same: a mass outpouring of enthusiasm for the fast-moving ball, until recently scarcely American game of soccer.

Soccer has long been the world's most popular sport. But only in the past few years has it been making rapid inroads into one of the last great holdouts: the United States. Today, soccer is the fastest-growing

team sport in the United States.

"We'll become the No. 1 sport in the country within 10 years," Phil Woosnam, commissioner of the North American Soccer League (NASL), confidently predicts — and not without reason.

To say soccer is catching on with kids is an understatement. According to Colin Green, secretary of the U.S. Youth Soccer Association, "We budget on a 30 percent growth and we exceed it every year — we're running at 30 to 50 percent a year."

Four years ago, Mr. Green's organization started out with just about 100 registered under-10-year-olds. Today, 250,000 enthusiastic youngsters are on his books. If the numbers of other, smaller soccer groups are added in, the total approaches the million mark.

Jack Roberts, of the National Federation of State High School Associations, paints a similar picture. Soccer, he says, still only ranks in popularity among high-school sports, but has become one of the most rapidly expanding high-school sports for both boys and girls. It is not replacing traditional American sports such as football and basketball, he goes on, but "it's being added."

Because it's fun, say the kids. Because it's cheap, say parents. "We can equip a team of 18 for roughly the same cost as one football player," asserts Mr. Green. Because it keeps you very fit, say coaches.

Because it doesn't matter how big or how tall you are, say those who would never have made it as basketball or football players.

As for spectators, Americans young and old flocked to watch Pele, the former Brazilian wonder-player, the Cosmos' brightest star until his retirement last month, and other imported or home-grown talent.

Before the Cosmos laid out an estimated \$1.5 million to lure Pele to New York in 1975, the team had been attracting 10,000 to 12,000 fans per game. But this past June 10 all American soccer records were shattered when 62,394 enthusiasts crammed into Giants Stadium to see Pele and the Cosmos beat the Tampa Bay Rowdies.

More soccer history was made in August when the NASL's seasonal attendance soared above 3 million for the first time — with four weeks of the season still to go. Back in 1974 the season's total only just squeezed past 1 million.

So far TV coverage has been limited to the independent "TVS" distribution system. But Mr. Woosnam can hardly wait to break into big time network TV. That's the key, he says, "soccer will explode then."

And after that... watch out, world, the Americans are coming. "I certainly see us developing a national team which could win the World Cup in 10 years," declares the irrepressible Mr. Woosnam.

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Young family follows Australian aborigines into the bush

By Anne Sutton
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

Sherwood, Australia
PLEASE KEEP LID ON TOILET CLOSED
TO KEEP OUT FROGS AND SNAKES.

I wrote that notice last year when we were living on an outstation, 40 kilometers from an aboriginal mission in the far north of Queensland, Australia. In spite of the notice, the septic toilet under the house was always full of frogs — and snakes.

My husband, Peter, was working with a group of aborigines as a linguist/anthropologist, and I joined him for some of the time with our three-month-old son, Thomas. We stayed at the mission itself for a

couple of months, but then the group of aborigines Peter was working with wanted to move out, so we went with them.

Some aborigines do not like living in the mission, where relationships between certain groups of traditional enemies are strained and where they have nothing to do. In recent years, some have been going back to their own areas of the country, to the land that belongs to them, to set up outstations. There they can live more peacefully and traditionally, spending most of their time hunting for food, making spears and woomeras (spear-throwers), or weaving baskets and teaching bush lore to the younger ones.

Sounds simple but isn't

Living out from the mission, in the real bush, sounded much simpler than in fact it turned out to be. Peret, the site of the outstation, was only 40 kilometers from the mission, but the journey in the dry season involved an hour's river crossing, followed by a very rough ride in a Land-Rover for another two hours.

In the wet season, December to March, land travel by vehicle is impossible, so a priority in settling up an outstation is to clear an airstrip so that light aircraft can land.

We first went out to Peret last September, which gave the group time to get things established before the wet set in. Formerly a cattle station, Peret was a convenient halfway point back to this group's own country. It was therefore a good place from which to work on clearing an airstrip and building sheds farther out on the group's own land. At Peret there already was an airstrip, which needed to be improved and maintained, and there were a couple of sheds, a small house, and a windmill.

Tradition-inclined aborigines prefer to live out in the open because houses don't really suit their life-style. They understand, however, that houses are what whites are used to, so we were invited to live in the house while



Thomas and Peter

Julie Christie's fight against Irish Sea pollution

By David S. Robinson
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

London Julie Christie seldom gives interviews. The film star once described as "the face of 1968" sits back, restlessly brushing her rather matted brown hair from her forehead.

"It must be 10 years since I last gave an interview," she says, smiling. "I just can't bear talking about myself."

She is sitting on the back balcony of her Notting Hill flat, wearing a thin black blouse and a gauze-like red skirt and not a trace of make-up.

She talks rapidly, impulsively, expressively. Stumbling over words, stopping to find the right phrase, and carries on. She is intelligent and radiates energy.

Politics bore her. She shrugs her shoulders and lets the subject drop. About herself she is equally reticent.

What she does want to talk about, what she has spent days reading up on, what she has given money to and is almost obsessed by is an issue which has so far disturbed very few consciences: should Britain embrace the plutonium economy and expand its nuclear waste-reprocessing plant at Windscale in Cumbria. It is an issue that arouses questions of safety, pollution, exports, and jobs. Even now the matter is being debated over the green beige tables of a civic hall in a remote north-western fishing town. This public inquiry is expected to go on for at least another four months.

Julie Christie is the only famous woman in Britain to publicly come out against the proposed expansion of the Windscale works. Her knowledge about a subject most people have left up to the scientists to decide on is im-

pressive. She has two thick files of newspaper cuttings and pamphlets which bear the marks of having been read and reread, with hasty underlinings and angry scribbles in the margin.

"Look!" she exclaims, right here in the Royal Commission report: "We think it remarkable that none of the official documents we have seen in our study convey any uneasiness... there is no suggestion of the possible long-term dangers to the fabric and freedom of our society."

"The reason this issue moves me is that with other things you can fight for them, win them, and then something comes along and cancels them out — what you've won, the road, the house, you lose on the swings. Everything else can bend to the fluctuations of time, but once this decision is made, there is no going back on it."

"I am amazed at the public apathy about Windscale — after all, that stuff has a half-life of so many thousands of years, so it's not just us but our children and their children and so on. All my American friends are shocked when I tell them we dump low-grade waste into the Irish Sea. But we don't seem to be... I know we may be rather more overwhelmed by economic worries but that can't be the explanation."

"The Government ought to realize their responsibilities in educating the public over this sort of thing. People cannot be just blinded by science. Things have to be explained to them carefully so that they understand."

"On this point, she is most emphatic: At present, the objectors to the planned expansion have to pay their own — often exorbitant — legal fees if they are to be properly represented at the public inquiry. British Nuclear Fuels Ltd., who are pressing for the go-ahead, is a



Breakfast with three-month-old Thomas and his new 'family'

the aborigines camped under trees in family groups.

The house we moved into was bare and had no electricity; in fact, no facilities of any kind except a wood stove. I washed diapers by hand, and after-dark journeys to the septic toilet were preceded by a sweeping survey of the scene with a flashlight, from the safety of the steps. The area was inhabited by taipans, one of the most poisonous snakes in the world. One had been killed under the house just before we arrived; Peter also killed a large snake there one night.

I was breast-feeding Thomas, so food for him was no problem; for ourselves, we had fresh fruit and vegetables flown in every fortnight. We also used lots of dried beans, dried fruit, and nuts flown in from a health-food shop.

A lot of Peter's work involved mapping the country in aboriginal terms, and the older men who had the knowledge were keen to get started. So a few days after we arrived, Peter left with some of the men.

Now aborigines do not approve of people staying alone, and with Peter away, I was considered to be alone. Isobel, who was termed my aboriginal "mother-in-law," announced that she would come and stay in the house with me, along with two teen-age girls. (In an aboriginal group, everyone in a continuing close

relationship with the group's members — including whites — is classified as kin.)

First night, silence

The women believed the house to be "haunted" and that the "spirit" of a former owner was trying to get back in. They spoke of it constantly. On the first night with my new "relatives," we all sat on the floor by the light of a kerosene lamp and in virtual silence, the windows and doors closed to keep out "the spirit."

Communication was difficult. The girls were very shy and their custom decreed I was not supposed to speak to my "mother-in-law." It was Thomas who brought us together. They loved him, and talked to him, and played with him. We all shared in this activity.

When Peter returned I presumed that we would be left alone in the house again, but our relatives stayed! Isobel was one of Peter's main sources of information, and being Thomas's "grandmother," she had a special relationship with him as well. Eventually, she almost took him over, holding him and playing with him most of the day. This was difficult for me, but as guests in their society and on their ground, we were trying to do things their way as much as possible, so we were interested to see it happening.

School days

A major problem connected with leaving the mission for the outstation was that the aboriginal children were missing school. Although I was trained as a secondary-school teacher and had never taught young children, I was soon drafted to teach a few lessons each day, just to keep the youngsters in the habit of doing schoolwork. We had pencils and paper and a few old books. Every morning, often before I had finished breakfast, the children would arrive and sit down on the floor of the main room, ready for school. We covered basic skills and tried to incorporate some of the things that they were experiencing in their bush life. This year a teacher has been officially appointed to teach at Peret.

We had a radio and set up a schedule with the mission, but it was often impossible to make contact. We could usually get the famous Flying Doctor Service clearly, however, and they gave advice over the radio in emergencies.

Weekly journey

During the dry season, Peter went to the mission every week to collect mail and supplies, also to cash pension and unemployment checks for the aborigines. There are not many jobs available for them at the mission, so many rely on unemployment checks and on the pension checks of the older members of the family group. Some think they should get money only if they work for it, so they never register for unemployment benefits. Some older people brought up in the tradition of reciprocal giving, and consider that welfare payments should be paid back one day.

Thomas and I returned home before the wet season started. The heat had begun to build up and the mosquitoes were coming out in droves. Peter worked on for a couple of months before flying home. He plans to go back every year, and when Thomas grows up a bit, we'll take him back, too, and tell him about his time there as a baby.

Mr. Robinson is a British newspaperman based in the north of England.

people

arts/books

Broadway: It's big, it's business and it's booming

By Arthur Unger

New York

Broadway theater has had one of its best seasons in years. In fact, it may be the only major growth industry in New York, according to figures released by the League of New York Theaters and Producers.

But three top figures in the theater world — Shubert head Gerald Schoenfeld, New York Shakespeare Festival producer Joseph Papp, and Kennedy Center chief Roger Stevens — insist there is a need for varying degrees of government subsidy if American theater is to survive in the future.

In the 1976-77 season (from June 1 through May 31), 9 million Broadway tickets were sold as compared with 7 million in the previous year. Gross box-office receipts totaled \$93.5 million as compared with around \$70 million last year. In addition, the first nine weeks of this season reveal audience totals running 300,000 ahead of last season.

In the general atmosphere of a culture boom throughout the United States, it is little surprise that the commercial New York theater is



By a staff photographer

Theatergoers arrive by the busload to make the Wednesday matinee curtain

Theater

also making great strides in overall attendance, just as dance, opera, and all forms of music. But what is surprising to some culture watchers is the fact that, while all of the other disciplines are in great debt with over-increasing deficits due to the combination of inflated costs which are not covered by the increased demand, the Broadway theater has raised its prices accordingly and still managed to increase attendance enough to qualify as a highly profitable industry — especially for theater owners such as the Shubert Organization, which owns and operates more than 50 percent of New York's legitimate theaters as well as five other houses in Los Angeles, Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago.

Median age drops

Gerald Schoenfeld, chairman of the board of the Shubert Organization, told the Monitor in an interview at his luxurious Shubert Alley headquarters that, while the breakdown of attendance remains approximately the same as in other recent years (70.4 percent metropolitan area, 29.6 percent out-of-towners), the median age of theatergoers has dropped from around 45 to around 33. And, he estimates, close to 15 percent now are black, encouraged by numerous black productions such as "The Wiz," "Bubbling Brown Sugar," and "Your Arm's Too Short to Box with God."

Mr. Schoenfeld ascribes the comparative success of the commercial New York theater or, as he terms it, "the taxpayer theater" (as differentiated from the nonprofit institutional theater) to "good plays, a healthier urban environment, a diversity of plays appealing to a

wider spectrum of audiences including young people and blacks. We have also tried to make our theaters more accessible, accepting credit cards, phone reservations, Ticketron, and utilizing the discount ticket booth in Duffy Square.

"Lincoln Center has revitalized a whole area of New York," he says. "The public doesn't seem to realize all this; the government doesn't either. The government gets a superb return on its investment for every dollar it allots to funding the arts."

Does that mean Mr. Schoenfeld believes the commercial New York theater needs subsidizing?

"No. Taxpaying theater should not be subsidized — it doesn't need it. Institutional theater must be at least partially subsidized if it is to survive. But the taxpayer theater needs other kinds of help in the way of depreciation allowances in the tax laws to induce people to invest in productions. Also, playwrights' royalties should be given some sort of preferential treatment to encourage writers to continue writing for the theater."

Direct subsidies favored

Further downtown, at the Public Theater near Astor Place, producer Joseph Papp, who has just relinquished control over the Vivian Beaumont Theater in Lincoln Center in order to concentrate on his own Shakespeare Festival activities, calls for direct government subsidies for institutional theater: "There are no

artistic institutions that are self-supporting. It's impossible if you are to have any continuity. The success of our 'Chorus Line' [which currently is erasing his company's overall deficit] is purely freakish, and nobody can depend upon something like that all the time to cover the deficit. The most popular, democratic way to find nonprofit theater is through government. After all, the government represents the public's tax money.

"I hate subsidy. I love the free market. Ideally it would be fine if we could live off the productions that we do with the public supporting us by buying tickets. But it is impossible in an institutional setup. You have an obligation to keep producing, break certain barriers, provide a forum for new ideas, new writers. A Broadway producer doesn't have to do that — he just has to make money."

Long-range goals

Mr. Papp, in a somewhat desperate effort to find additional sources of funding his operation which normally runs up a yearly deficit of \$2.5 million, has been exploring the possibility of producing television shows.

"I'm negotiating and working on two properties which may make good mini- or maxi-series. What I want to do is reach a mass audience with quality material."

But Mr. Papp constantly returns to the idea of government subsidy as the real long-range answer: "The reason the government should

support institutional arts is because they are not merely perpetuating the old... but introducing new ideas. I believe that institutions that accept government funding have an obligation to be innovative, give employment to contemporary artists.

"But, government must subsidize. That's the only dignified way for us. We should have to go to corporations and private contractors hat in hand. I'm not saying that business, private donors should not support the arts, but they should be for certain special things."

This year I'm raising \$500,000 to support Shakespeare in the Park, while the city puts up \$300,000. Next year — no more."

At the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, chairman Roger Stevens, who was the first chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, points out that the Kennedy Center has been managing to pay its way without government subsidy: "We don't pay our share of the operating cost of the park since this is a national memorial which the parks department maintains."

Overhead kept down

How does Mr. Stevens do it?

"Well, New York people go to hits; Washington audiences go to the theater. Of course there are some subsidies from private sources but we try to keep the overhead low. We were the innovators of instant charge for tickets and our black audiences have now developed a taste for all kinds of theater. Also, don't forget that the summer has become a very good time for theater, so it is possible to fill your house throughout the year. We come pretty close."

Mr. Stevens, however, says he feels that opera and ballet have to be subsidized by government because of the tremendous costs of maintaining such institutions.

"Maybe there is a need for some subsidy of certain theater groups — but if people are able to work out their own problems instead of depending upon 'Big Brother,' they're better off, even if they obviously need some money from government for certain things. The Metropolitan Opera had a \$12 million deficit and they managed to raise the money. If they had not had to, they wouldn't have. I like the pressure of efficient operations."

"I'm all for subsidizing young artists. But if you're going to be a professional producer, part of the job is raising money. I believe that total subsidy in the case of institutional theater — as well as any other institutional cultural form — can be very wasteful... and in the long run harmful."

Wide financial range

Thus the range from commercial or "taxpaying" theater to institutional theater covers a wide variation of financial conditions. While Shubert head Schoenfeld rakes in record-breaking profits, Joseph Papp must scurry about among wealthy corporations and individuals for enough funds to cover what he terms "unrecoverable deficits. At the same time Roger Stevens, by avoiding too many innovative "long shots," manages to make ends meet without the major government subsidy that Papp demands.

In any case the varicolored spectrum borders well for American theater, whatever the extent of subsidization. And all do seem to agree that some measure of government subsidy is essential. The cultural community, especially the institutional theater group, restlessly awaits word from the Carter administration which is working up its recommendations for the next fiscal year at this very moment.

leader, a post he took on when disillusion with World War I set in, was to replace the Liberal Party of Gladstone, Asquith, and Lloyd George with the Labour Party as the main opposition, anti-Conservative party in Britain. This replacement was permanent and remains to this day unquestioned. Without MacDonald's leadership and his public acceptance, Labour would surely have developed into a strong parliamentary force in a three-party political system but one destined to compete with the Liberals for second place.

To achieve this status in a mere 20 years, Labour had to persuade a large number of Liberal voters that although Labour "was a working-class party, it was not an exclusively working-class party." Under MacDonald's leadership, Labour was transformed from a party of protest into a party of government. In so doing he helped strengthen British democracy. Such is the message and theme of Marquand's biography, a major contribution to contemporary history and a superbly fascinating piece of historical writing.

Arnold Beichman, associate professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, teaches British politics.

New image for Ramsay MacDonald

Ramsay MacDonald, by David Marquand. Toronto, New Jersey: Rowman and Littlefield, 303 pp. \$25. London: Jonathan Cape, £8.50.

By Arnold Beichman

It is, of course, nothing new for political parties to transform their image and spokesmen when times and conditions change.

The man who ruled the Soviet Union, for example, from 1923 to 1924 — almost eleven years — is no unperson in his own country. Almost

Books

never mentioned in public or in print, the name of Nikita Khrushchev has slipped down the Orwellian memory-hole.

In the United States what Republican convention would ever refer to the glorious administrations of Ulysses S. Grant, Warren G. Harding, and with less justice to Herbert Hoover. How swiftly the name of Lyndon B. Johnson has disappeared, not of course, under "party" orders as in the case of the USSR. Simply, for political reasons, these names have become political embarrassments.

In British Labour Party annals there is a similar unperson, James Ramsay MacDonald, the first Labour Prime Minister, whose last

task was to preside from 1931 to 1933 over a national coalition of Conservative, Liberal, and Labour ministers. Because his conscience drove him to seek a national coalition government during a grave economic crisis, he was reviled by his own party as a traitor and a sell-out.

It is one of the paradoxes of our time that for an unrepentant aristocrat, like Frederick Engels, or the son of a middle-class bureaucrat, like Lenin, or the son of a J. P. Morgan banker, like Corliss Lamont, to identify with socialism or communism is not a betrayal of one's "class" but rather a shining triumph of intellect and morality. For a socialist to become a supporter of capitalism is an act of betrayal, an unprincipled sellout to the "enemy."

David Marquand, a Labour MP and one of the party's intellectual luminaries, has written the definitive biography of a man against whom a political party he helped to found committed what the biographer regards as a cruel act of injustice — obscuring MacDonald's achievements and distorting his failures.

Marquand, who had access to the MacDonald family archives, diaries, and other unpublished records, portrays a statesman of unusual courage and high-minded consistency. MacDonald's major achievement as party

travel

The theater a Swedish queen built and loved

By Jennifer Merin

Special to

The Christian Science Monitor

Stockholm
"Majesty" is the only term for the Drottningholm Court Theater. This 18th-century opera house, on the outskirts of Stockholm, retains its original decor, stage machinery, and sets so that audiences can watch productions just like those ordered by Queen Louisa Ulrika when the theater was first opened.

Ironically, it was through almost total disregard and neglect that the theater was preserved against the ravages and renovations of time. As the story goes, Queen Louisa Ulrika, consort to King Adolf Fredrik and sister of Frederick the Great of Prussia, was fond of French culture and especially delighted in theater. She moved the Royal Court to Drottningholm, where she ordered a theater to be constructed as annex to the palace. She often commissioned plays and pageants, and members of the court dutifully participated as amateur performers.

The first theater built on the site burst into flames during a performance and was completely consumed. The dedicated Queen determined to construct another one, larger and more elaborate. This task was completed in 1766 by court architect Carl Fredrik Adelcrantz.

The theater quickly became a center of Swedish cultural life. Louisa Ulrika hired a troupe of French comedians, who performed regularly and were housed in rooms behind the stage. They were later joined by a band of Italian opera singers.

After King Adolf Fredrik died, Louisa Ulrika moved to less ostentatious quarters, and their son became Gustav III.

After a brief hiatus, Drottningholm was taken over by the new king, himself an accomplished actor and playwright of significance. The Drottningholm Court Theater was active again and remained so until 1792, when Gustav III was assassinated while attending a performance at the Royal Opera House in Stockholm. (This sad event itself served as subject for several plays and operas, of which Verdi's "The Masked Ball" is the best known.)

His successor, Gustav IV, was little interested in the arts, especially theater. He allowed the opera house at Drottningholm to fall into disuse and, for more than a century, the building alternately served as an Army barracks and a Sunday school. But mostly, it became the royal warehouse, where unwanted furniture and odds and ends were piled up and forgotten.

Forgotten, that is, until 1921, when one Agne Beijer, an official of the Royal Library in Stockholm, discovered some 30 hand-painted and signed stage sets still intact there, beneath layers of dust, yards of cobwebs, and a century of old furniture. By 1922, Beijer, a resourceful and committed restorer, had the Drottningholm Court Theater open again and ready for production. It has remained open ever since.

An annual season of productions, limited to 50 performances each year (to save wear and tear on the sets and stage machinery), offers 18th-century operas, ballets, and plays, selected to suit the stage sets extant.

Although this year's production of Monteverdi's "Coronation of Poppea" will play only four times, it is the technical production at Drottningholm that draws gasps of surprise and delight from the audience. Complete and detailed sets, each with perfectly painted forced (exaggerated) perspective views, shift as if by magic (there's that word again), within seconds before astonished eyes.

It is the stage machinery that allows these



The Swedish Tourist Traffic Association

Drottningholm Court Theater: still pulling 'em in 200 years later

effects: Innumerable pulleys, cogs, and couplings attached to set pieces, side wings, and backdrop by a tangle of thousands of cords change the scene within seconds. The system, designed in 1766 by Italian theater technician Donato Torelli, is controlled by a huge windlass, located below the stage and operated by four strong stagehands. In addition, trap doors instantly swallow up or display set pieces and props. And a cloud machine delivers singing gods from the flies to the stage and returns them again upward.

The stately but unpretentious exterior of the building gives no indication of the atmosphere to be encountered inside. However, the door is flanked by two white-wigged gentlemen in silks and brocades and ruffled shirts — 18th-century to the last detail. The ushers and orchestra are similarly attired.

The interior of the building has been little touched or retouched. The same square, hand-painted sheets of wallpaper have scattered

sprigs of delicate flowers and suggested finely flawed marble throughout the lobby and foyers for two centuries. Broad floorboards are braced with original pegs. Backstage rooms, used in the 1700s by performers for housing and dressing, contain their original beds (rather short, with very plump mattresses and elegant curtains), chests (assorted oaken and leather treasure troves), and makeup boxes (elaborate enterprises with labyrinthine arrangements of drawers, compartments, and secret spaces).

Added to the original adornment of the foyers is an impressive 18th-century theater memorabilia display, assembled and administered by the Drottningholm Court Theater Foundation, which also offers tours about the place.

The theater's auditorium has only 400 seats, each of which was originally designated for a member of the royal family, court, or household staff. Many of the seats still display the names of those who occupied them long ago.

Chandelier candles have been replaced with electric bulbs, but these have the same tone and intensity as candles; they even flicker the way candles do.

Of course, one enjoyable aspect of theater as an art form is that it allows audiences a glimpse of other people, places, things. But the Drottningholm Court Theater is experienced not only on stage, but all around.

For readers who might want to make this jaunt: Drottningholm, just five miles from the center of Stockholm, is easily accessible by public bus (underground to Brommaplan, and change to Mälarbus for Drottningholm) or by boat (with Strömma Kanalbolaget from Klara Mälarstrand, at City Hall jetty). Tickets to performances cost 18 to 35 Swedish crowns; discounts are available for students and the elderly. Performance schedules are available from Swedish Tourist Board (Box 7306, S-103 85 Stockholm 7). Most performances are completely sold out; advance booking is advisable.

Cape Town's Kirstenbosch Garden

By Elizabeth van Ryssen
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

Ask any visitor what he hopes to see in Cape Town and chances are Kirstenbosch Garden will be high on his list. The garden is worth a visit at any time of the year, but in spring and early summer (August to October in South Africa), it is more than just a highly recommended stop — it is an obligatory one.

It is not just another flower garden, but the headquarters of the National Botanic Gardens of South Africa — eight regional gardens, each specializing in the native plants of its area.

The botanic garden at Kirstenbosch was established in 1913. But its story began long before that, in the 18th and 19th centuries, when "hottentot" hunters like Thunberg, Burchell, Baines, Masson and Pappé were amazed by the profusion of plant species they found and many papers and books were published on the country's botanical riches.

The Dutch and British settlers were not nearly so impressed. They tended to regard only the imported flowers of Europe worth cul-

tivating and all native plants as weeds. And it seems from comparisons with early illustrations of Cape flora that some species may have been wiped out through ignorance.

Fortunately not all local residents thought that way. Some were enthusiastic amateur botanists, and at the turn of the century several business and professional men were agitating for the establishment of a botanic garden at the Cape.

When Cecil John Rhodes, the diamond "king" and Prime Minister of the Cape Colony died in 1902, he left his vast estate on the slopes of Table Mountain range to the nation, providing a home for successive prime ministers of South Africa, a magnificent site for a university (now the campus of the University of Cape Town) and a trophy garden.

Henry Harold Welch Pearson came to Cape Town in 1903 from London's Kew Gardens to be Professor of Botany at the South African College (later the University of Cape Town). When the botanic garden was established in 1913 he became its first director. Ever since the director of Kirstenbosch has been a professor in the University's botany department and

the garden a unique outdoor laboratory for its students.

Professor Brian Rycroft is Kirstenbosch's third director. He told me that it is not just a flora reserve. "It is a methodically laid out garden for the scientific study of the flora of South Africa," he said.

"Plants are grown in strictly controlled areas and very careful records are kept of the germination, growth habits, soil and water requirements, and climatic conditions needed for each species. In this way we can determine the environment in which a plant will do best and establish criteria for the successful cultivation of our indigenous plants."

Professor Rycroft said two of the most recent developments at Kirstenbosch were the proving and erica gardens on the slopes of the mountain.

Of the approximately 600 varieties of the erica family in the Cape, about 150 are represented in the garden, including some rare species that were in danger of annihilation through vandalism or bush fires.

"One species is so selective in range in its wild state that it grows only on a single mountain in the whole of the Cape. One bush fire and it could be completely wiped out, were it not for our plants now growing in this garden."

The Compton Herbarium, named after Kirstenbosch's second director, was established in 1909.

"Specimens of most of South Africa's native plants are filed here," Dr. John Rourke, the curator, said. "But every now and then we come across a new one."

One of the most important specialized jobs at Kirstenbosch is the gathering of seeds. These are dried, cleaned, sorted, packed and stored, ready for distribution to botanic gardens and institutions throughout the world. In 1976 more than 50,000 packets of seeds were distributed throughout the world.

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science/environment

Creeping deserts — the quiet menace

By Richard L. Strout
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Washington

Deserts are on the march. Fifteen hundred delegates at the recent UN conference in Nairobi, Kenya, focused attention on deserts and what to do about "desertification." Advance studies show that the same growth of population that makes more food necessary is tending to overutilize land and reduce food production.

It is no insignificant problem, say anxious demographers. Where are the civilizations of Ur and Babylon? Today a third of the earth's land is arid or semi-arid. From the spaceship returning "home" to planet earth, the Nile Delta is a splash of green in an ocean of sand, but some parts of the globe looked like a lunar landscape.

Technology of the space age is increasingly used against desertification. Remote sensing satellites now scan 85 percent of the world's drylands, and computer-enhanced images watch vegetation changes, dune movement, surface wind movement, and similar developments.

"At least 50 million people live in areas that are slowly turning to desert because of human-



Death Valley, California

Misuse of land aids the creep of deserts outward

ity's abuse of the land," declares a study from the Nairobi conference prepared for Worldwatch Institute here by Erik Eckholm and Lester R. Brown.

"As a result of the unwise use of land, deserts are creeping outward in Africa, Asia, Australia, and the Americas. Worse, the productive capacity of vast dry regions in both

rich and poor countries is falling," this report says.

The U.S. has its own examples of desertification. Turning sheep loose without proper range management on the Navajo Indian reservation in Arizona and New Mexico for instance, transformed lush meadows into dusty lands dotted with sagebrush.

On the other hand, much of Israel's Negev Desert has recently been restored after thousands of years of overgrazing and denudation. China has halted deterioration in some areas, Algeria and other countries recently initiated large-scale programs.

It is not the droughts and it is not a possible long-range weather change that immediately spread deserts, declares the Eckholm-Brown study. It is bad land management and pressure to produce more food to meet human population growth. The world has 4 billion people, and its population is expected by some experts to double in 25 to 30 years. About 14 percent of these people live on arid or semi-arid land. According to UN estimates, 78 million live on lands already almost useless because of erosion, dune formation, vegetation change, and salt encrustation.

The world became aware of the silent march of deserts in 1974 when the Sahara, at its southern "shore," the Sahel, began extending after a long drought. A worse drought simultaneously occurred in Ethiopia. The drought ended, but the problem continued. In less than 20 years the desert has moved southward in the Sudan 62 miles. One study estimates 250,000 acres of range and cropland are lost to desert each year.

Some see a global change of climate. But if climate is changing it may be doing so because of man. And meanwhile man is unwisely using the arable land he has, experts lament.

Erosion, deforestation, and in mismanaged irrigation systems, a buildup of salts in the soil mark the transformation of usable land into desert. Eventually, droughts may trigger the collapse of a vulnerable food production system, resulting in famine," says the Eckholm-Brown report.

The paranormal: sorting fact from fiction

By Robert C. Cowen

A group of scientists, philosophers, and humanists is taking aim at the Bermuda triangle, extrasensory perception, psychic plants, and other symbols of latter-day unreason.

Calling themselves the Committee for the Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CICP), they are concerned that such mysticism has become "dangerous to the basic fabric of our society," says committee member Lee Nisbet, editor of the Humanist. It reflects a trend toward "wishy-washy" thinking about important issues, he explains, and it's time for "the scientific community to show that these beliefs are utterly screwball."

CICP is right. A willingness to believe in far-out phenomena on the thinnest of evidence does stultify thinking. But if CICP is to combat this tendency effectively, it will have to go after unreason in the scientific community as well.

For decades, many scientists have undermined their own credibility by being

needlessly hostile to "silly" subjects that raise public interest or less than candid in dealing with public issues.

Not content with debunking claims of flying saucer enthusiasts, for example, many scientists have ridiculed such people and exerted social pressure to discourage other scientists from investigating such things. On issues such as nuclear safety, scientists have often become impassioned advocates, distorting knowledge and using half-truths to press their case. On other issues, such as public regulation of genetic research, they sometimes ask the public to trust them to run their own affairs when widespread misuse of science and technology offers little reason for such trust.

Is it any wonder that many people see scientists as arrogant, untrustworthy, and closed-minded? Is it any wonder that people, unaccustomed to the discipline of scientific investigation, discount the experts and listen to the promoters of spectacular "phenomena?"

There is great need for expert guidance in sorting fact from fiction in today's fast-moving and complex world. Fraud is rampant in the field of the paranormal. Standards of the media in dealing with the subject are questionable. Often, entertainment value takes precedence over fact.

Paul Kurtz of the State University of New York and co-chairman of CICP recently criticized such NBC shows as "The Bermuda Triangle" or "In Search of Noah's Ark" for being "in scientific terms a scandal." According to the New York Times, NBC said it wasn't presenting such things as fact and, if a show isn't produced by NBC News, viewers should assume what is presented isn't necessarily true. What viewer knows that?

CICP hopes to combat such nonsense through its new journal the Zetetic (named for a group of ancient Greek skeptics). This could make an important contribution to public thought. But unless it bridges the credibility gap that scientists have created, CICP will wind up talking to itself.

education

Venezuela sends her sons to U.S. for quick training

Scholarship program seeks needed grads

By Larry Van Dyne
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

Caracas, Venezuela

Guillermo Cuellar came home to Venezuela last year after several years of study in the United States, carrying with him a new bachelor's degree in geology from Cornell College in Iowa. For a country like Venezuela, the world's fifth-largest producer of oil, the degree could not have been in a better field. Mr. Cuellar soon had an offer from an oil company to work as a full-fledged geologist.

"The mere fact that they offered me a job, when I have only a BA and the minimal course work, is a good indication of how desperate they are for trained people," the young

Venezuelan said. "In the United States, I'd be lucky to get a job carrying a geologist's materials."

Eventually he declined the offer in favor of returning to the U.S. for a master's degree this fall, but the chances are excellent that a good job as a geologist awaits him when he comes back to Venezuela.

Mr. Cuellar is one of the first students to receive financial aid under an ambitious scholarship program set up by Venezuela's social democratic government when it took office in 1974. Last year, the program supported more than 11,000 young Venezuelan students in a crash effort to produce a badly needed pool of indigenous scientists and technicians for the country's expanding and changing economy. About 4,000 of those were assigned to Venezuelan universities, while the rest were sent abroad, including about 3,800 to universities in the United States.

The program has pushed Venezuela to ninth



Señora de Almeida, vice-minister of education

among the nations of the world in the number of students studying in the U.S., a jump from 21st in 1970-71.

The program is tied, of course, to the all-important oil industry. Revenues from it help pay for the scholarships (\$75 million last year). And it will absorb a good many, although not all, of the program's graduates.

Venezuela's oil industry has been going strong since shortly after the first well came in at Lake Maracaibo, in the Western part of the country, in 1914. The lake now is studded with oil derricks, most of them put up by the foreign companies that dominated the exploration and pumping from the beginning.

Last year, however, those companies were forced out under a nationalization plan, and the industry was put into the hands of a government holding company called Petroven. It now ranks as the largest industrial organization in Latin America.

A crucial element in the success of Petroven, and other industries such as steel and aluminum, is the availability of adequate scientific and technical personnel. Venezuela's universities, including the huge Central University of Venezuela here, do produce some indigenous scientific personnel, but nowhere near enough to meet the emerging demand. The government still is forced to rely on Americans in some important posts in Petroven and its subsidiaries.

The government scholarship program is intended to meet this manpower shortage and to help move Venezuela toward more economic independence. It is named in honor of the "Grand Marshal of Ayacucho," a reference to Gen. Antonio José Sucre, whose victory in 1824 over the Spanish at Ayacucho, in modern-day Peru, ended the Spanish hold on South America.

Although economic independence is the goal,

Venezuela is relying heavily on American universities to train its people quickly, much like other oil-rich nations such as Iran and Saudi Arabia. "We think it is the best way to transfer technology quickly," said Ruth Lerner de Almeida, a former teacher and vice-minister of education who heads the scholarship program.

Once they return to Venezuela, scholarship students will be required to work in the oil industry or other priority fields, either in the public or private sector, at least one year for each year they had government support. The scholarship covers tuition and most other expenses.

This past academic year some 325 U.S. universities, colleges, and schools enrolled Venezuelan scholarship students, with the largest number, about 130, going to the University of Texas at Austin. There also were substantial numbers at the University of Southern California, Tulsa, Kansas, Oklahoma State, Louisiana State, Tennessee at Martin, Northeastern, and Arizona.

Language, naturally, is the biggest obstacle the Spanish-speaking Venezuelans face when they arrive in the United States. Most spend several months, perhaps even a full year, in intensive English programs before being allowed to take regular academic work. English proficiency tests are administered to determine when students are ready to move on.

Some students also experience tinges of culture shock, especially the more unsophisticated ones who come from lower-income families in the most remote Venezuelan villages.

Speeding the social mobility of these rural students is another of the program's goals, Mrs. Almeida said. About 70 percent of those selected for scholarships, she said, come from the economically depressed areas outside the city. Some have illiterate parents who must sign their children's scholarship papers with a fingerprint.



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French/German

Carter s'engage à pas feutrés dans une diplomatie plus discrète

[Cet article paraît en anglais à la page 8]

par Daniel Southerland

Washington. Avec la nouvelle conférence sur les armements stratégiques à l'horizon, l'administration Carter a effectué un revirement évident de la diplomatie ouverte à la diplomatie discrète.

Dien que ce changement de tactique puisse augmenter les possibilités d'améliorer les relations avec l'Union soviétique, le public peut avoir l'impression qu'il ne sait pas au juste où on en est en ce qui concerne la course aux armements nucléaires des Etats-Unis et de l'Union soviétique.

[La conférence sur les armements stratégiques, prévue pour septembre à Vienne entre le secrétaire d'Etat Cyrus Vance et le ministre des affaires étrangères soviétiques Andreï Gromyko, a maintenant été renvoyée à la deuxième moitié de septembre, lorsque M. Gromyko viendra aux Etats-Unis pour l'ouverture de l'assemblée générale des Nations Unies.]

Le passage à la circonspection dans l'arène publique se fait sentir dans tous les domaines — à partir de la politique de l'administration envers la Chine et la Rhodesie jusqu'au Moyen-Orient. Sur ce dernier sujet, le secrétaire d'Etat Vance a décliné à diverses reprises de révéler des détails sur les propositions des U.S.A. pour un règlement pacifique tout en s'efforçant d'amener les Arabes et les Israéliens à conclure un accord.

Mais les fonctionnaires de l'administration disent que le président Carter et d'autres fonctionnaires ont l'intention de continuer à faire plus que l'administration précédente n'a fait

pour expliquer ses démarches diplomatiques franchement et continuer à parler ouvertement des droits de l'homme de temps en temps, même si cela devait offenser les Soviétiques.

Toutefois, maintenant l'administration paraît être arrivée à un équilibre entre son souci pour les droits de l'homme et l'ouverture d'une part et les « résultats » de la politique étrangère d'autre part, qui semblent exiger une retenue considérable dans les déclarations publiques émanant de Washington.

Les autorités soulignent que c'est un progrès vers la prudence, non un recul vers la tortuosité. C'est simplement le résultat d'une dure expérience, cela fait partie de la maturation d'une jeune administration, disent-ils.

Nulle part une plus grande emphase n'est évidente au sujet de la diplomatie discrète que dans les relations avec l'Union soviétique.

Bien qu'aucun haut fonctionnaire U.S.A. ne soit susceptible d'admettre publiquement qu'il y a eu un changement important, l'administration est devenue moins loquace pendant les derniers mois dans ses critiques relatives aux actions disciplinaires continues des Soviétiques contre les dissidents.

Il y a deux mois, le président Carter a dit à un groupe de rédacteurs et de directeurs de presse qu'il avait été surpris par les réactions adverses des Soviétiques au sujet de la position des Etats-Unis sur les droits de l'homme et que cela avait causé un obstacle plus grand qu'il ne l'avait anticipé relativement à d'autres efforts, tels que la recherche d'un nouvel accord SALT.

Jusqu'à quel point la position des U.S.A. sur

les droits de l'homme a-t-elle affecté les perspectives de SALT ? Voilà un point sur lequel tout le monde au sein de l'administration n'est pas d'accord. Toutefois, tout le monde est d'accord pour convenir que cela empoisonnait l'atmosphère des relations américano-soviétiques. Avec l'abord plus modéré qui se manifeste dans l'administration Carter, l'atmosphère paraît, pour le moins, être meilleure.

Une autre raison pour le passage vers une diplomatie plus discrète envers l'Union soviétique — et d'autres pays — a été le souci croissant pour ce qui est considéré comme des « fuites préjudiciables » de renseignements concernant la sécurité nationale, que les fonctionnaires de l'administration affirment avoir été écartés en dehors de leur contexte.

Les fonctionnaires du Département d'Etat sont devenus en même temps circonspects en raison de ce qu'ils considèrent être généralement de la « mauvaise presse » sur les récents voyages du secrétaire d'Etat Vance — qui ont été qualifiés dans certains reportages de « missions impossibles ».

Finalement, l'administration a pris conscience que la diplomatie ouverte force souvent les parties à entrer en conflit, comme par exemple dans le Moyen-Orient, en assumant des positions publiques inflexibles, ce qui favorise l'impasse plutôt que la négociation.

Ainsi qu'un fonctionnaire l'a signalé, toutes les fois que le président Carter fait des conjectures sur la situation au Moyen-Orient lors d'un débat public, cela a des répercussions de grande envergure au Moyen-Orient même, où les chefs d'Etat se sentent obligés de faire des commentaires et trouvent ensuite difficile de

revenir sur leurs déclarations publiques parce que tout recul des positions énoncées publiquement pourrait être considéré comme un apaisement.

Le président Carter a appris également que certaines « expressions » du Moyen-Orient, telles que « la patrie palestinienne » pouvant paraître innocentes à des oreilles américaines, ont un retentissement émotionnel terrible lorsqu'elles sont entendues au Moyen-Orient.

Le Département d'Etat dit que la date de la rencontre Vance-Gromyko a été changée parce que M. Vance désirait être à Washington pour la signature du nouveau traité relatif au canal de Panama le 7 septembre et pouvoir rencontrer les chefs d'Etat d'Amérique latine qui doivent être présents à cette occasion.

D'autres sources de renseignements suspectent, toutefois, que bien que la signature du traité puisse avoir été prise en considération lors de la décision des U.S.A. de reporter la rencontre Vance-Gromyko, une autre considération doit avoir été la persistance de profonds désaccords avec les Soviétiques au sujet des propositions de limitation des armes stratégiques.

Etant donné le comportement plus retenu de l'administration Carter en ce moment, il peut ne pas être facile de déterminer où en sont les choses avec les Soviétiques. Certaines sources de renseignements suggèrent que l'administration est elle-même incertaine et se passe de faire des commentaires détaillés afin d'éviter de provoquer des attentes de progrès qui risqueraient seulement d'être ébranlées à une date ultérieure.

Carter geht vorsichtig zu einer stilleren Diplomatie über

[Dieser Artikel erscheint auf Seite 8 in englischer Sprache.]

Von Daniel Southerland

Jetzt, wo die Gespräche über die strategischen Waffen mit der Sowjetunion neu aufgenommen werden sollen, ist die Regierung Carter ganz offensichtlich von einer offenen zu einer stilleren Diplomatie übergegangen.

Wenn auch dieser taktische Umschwung eine Verbesserung der Beziehungen zur Sowjetunion ermöglichen mag, so mag er doch die Öffentlichkeit über die wichtigste aller Fragen im Dunkeln lassen: wie das amerikanisch-sozialistische nukleare Wettrüsten eingeschränkt werden kann.

[Die Gespräche über die strategischen Waffen, die ursprünglich im September zwischen Außenminister Cyrus Vance und dem sowjetischen Außenminister Andreï Gromyko stattfinden sollten, wurden jetzt auf die zweite Hälfte im September verlegt, wo Gromyko zur Eröffnung der Volleröffnungsfeier der Vereinten Nationen in die Vereinigten Staaten besucht.]

Der Umschwung zur Zurückhaltung in der Öffentlichkeit ist überall festzustellen — angedeutet bei dem Verhalten der Regierung gegenüber China und Rhodesien bis zur Nahost-Frage. Was das letztere Thema angeht, so hat Außenminister Vance sich wiederholt geweigert, Einzelheiten über die von den USA gemachten Vorschläge zu einem Friedensabkommen bekanntzugeben, solange er sich bemüht, zwischen Arabern und Israelis eine Verständigung zu erzielen.

Doch Mitglieder der Regierung sagen, Präsident Carter und andere Beamte beabsichtigen weiterhin — mehr als die vorherige Administration — ihre diplomatischen Züge freimütlich zu erklären und gelegentlich offen über die

Menschenrechte zu sprechen, selbst wenn die Sowjets sich daran ablehnen.

Nun scheint die Regierung jedoch einen Mittelweg gefunden zu haben zwischen ihrer Besorgnis um die Menschenrechte und ihrer „Offenheit“ einerseits und den „Realitäten“ der Außenpolitik andererseits, die offenbar beachtliche Zurückhaltung in den aus Washington kommenden öffentlichen Erklärungen erfordert.

Einige Politiker vertreten den Standpunkt, dies sei ein Schritt zur Vernunft hin anstatt zur Unaufrichtigkeit. Es ist einfach das Ergebnis harter Erfahrungen, so behauptet zum Beispiel James Baker, Vize-Außenminister.

„Das ist eine diplomatische Überlegung, die irgendwo mehr bemerkbar ist als in den Beziehungen zur Sowjetunion.“

Kein hoher amerikanischer Staatsbeamter wird wahrscheinlich in der Öffentlichkeit zugeben, daß die Regierung ihre Einstellung wesentlich geändert habe; doch in den letzten Monaten hat sie mit ihrer Kritik an der forgesetzten „sozialistischen Maßregelung“ von Dissidenten mehr zurückgehalten.

Präsident Carter sagte vor zwei Monaten zu einer Gruppe von Redakteuren und Senatoren, er sei überrascht gewesen, wie negativ die Sowjets auf die Einstellung der USA zu den Menschenrechten reagiert haben, und dies habe anderen Meilen, wie den Bemühungen um ein neues SALT-Abkommen, größere Hindernisse in den Weg gelegt, als er erwartet habe.

Wenn man sich auch innerhalb der Regierung nicht einig ist, wieviel die amerikanische Einstellung zu den Menschenrechten die SALT-Aussichten beeinflusst,

hat, herrscht doch beachtliche Einigkeit darüber, daß die „Atmosphäre“ der amerikanischen-sovietischen Beziehungen vergiftet habe. Zumindest scheint sich nun die Atmosphäre verbessert zu haben, wo die Carter-Administration mehr Zurückhaltung an den Tag legt.

Ein weiterer Grund für den Übergang zu einer stilleren Diplomatie gegenüber der Sowjetunion — und anderen Ländern — war die zunehmende Beunruhigung darüber, was als „schädliches Durchsickern“ von Informationen über nationale Sicherheitstragen betrachtet wird, die von Regierungsbeamten erklährt, aus der Presse und anderen Quellen weitergegeben wurden.

Abgeordnete des Außenministeriums sind zur selben Zeit auch wegen der ihres Erscheins allgemal „schlechten Presse“ während der jüngsten Reisen Außenminister Vance vor sichergestellt worden, die in einigen Presseberichten als „missionen impossible“ (Missionen, die unmöglich zu vollziehen sind) bezeichnet wurden.

Und schließlich gelangte die Regierung zu der Erkenntnis, daß offene Diplomatie die Parteien oft in die Enge treibt — wie z. B. in der Nahost-Frage — und sie sich gezwungen sehen, eine unangelegene öffentliche Haltung einzunehmen. Dies führt eher zu einem absoluten Stillstand als zu Verhandlungen.

Wie ein Beamter erklärte, zieht es jedesmal im Nahen Osten selbst, wenn Carter, wenn Präsident Carter vor einem öffentlichen Forum seine Meinung zur Lage im Nahen Osten äußert, dort fühlen sich die führenden Persönlichkeiten gezwungen, dazu Stellung zu nehmen, und dann ist es für sie schwer, von ihren

öffentlichen Aussagen abzurücken, weil jeder Rückzieher von einer öffentlichen Stellungnahme als Nachgiebigkeit ausgelegt werden könnte.

Präsident Carter hat ferner gelernt, daß gewisse nebstliche „Schlüsselwörter“ wie „palestinensisches Heimatland“ für die amerikanischen Ohren unheimlich klingen mögen, aber ungeheuren emotionalen Begehrtschmack haben, wenn sie im Nahen Osten benutzt werden.

Wie das Außenministerium erklärt, wurde das Treffen zwischen Vance und Gromyko verschoben, weil Vance am 7. September die Unterzeichnung des neuen Panama-Kanal-Vertrages in Washington sein und sich mit dem lateinamerikanischen Regierungschefs zusammensetzen wollte, die zu diesem Anlaß nach Washington gekommen waren.

Von anderer Seite wird jedoch der Gedanke nahegelegt, daß die anhaltende starke Uneinigkeit mit den Sowjets über Vorschläge zur nuklearen Rüstungsbegrenzung — ein weiterer Grund gewesen sein muß, warum die USA sich entschlossen, das Treffen zwischen Vance und Gromyko zu verschieben, obgleich die Unterzeichnung des Vertrages bei dem Entschluß nicht gesprochen haben mag.

Angesichts des im Augenblick gedämpften Stils der Regierung Carter mag es nicht leicht sein, zu entscheiden, wie die Dinge mit den Sowjets liegen. Wie aus einigen Quellen verläßt, ist sich die Regierung selbst nicht sicher und weigert sich, eine ausführliche Erklärung dazu abzugeben, um zu vermeiden, Hoffnungen auf Fortschritt zu machen, die später nur bitter enttäuscht werden mögen.

French/German

[This religious article appears in English on the Home Forum page]

Traduction de l'article religieux, paraissant en anglais sur la page The Home Forum

(Une traduction française paraît sur la page The Home Forum)

Un point de vue nouveau

Sentez-vous parfois qu'un changement de pensée serait le bienvenu ? Beaucoup d'entre nous ne se rendent pas compte qu'il n'est pas nécessaire de continuer à entretenir à notre sujet un point de vue depuis longtemps accepté. Chacun a le droit d'être lui-même, mais en même temps devrait user de discrimination en acceptant ou en rejetant des pensées en fonction de leur relation à la réalité spirituelle.

Comment ? La Bible indique que le changement de pensée nécessaire peut être accompli lorsqu'on devient plus conscient des idées émanant de Dieu, le seul Entendement divin. Je sais les pensées que je forme pour vous, dit l'Eternel, pensées de paix et non d'adversité, pour vous donner un avenir et une espérance.

La Science Chrétienne, en accord avec les vérités spirituelles révélées dans les Ecritures, explique que Dieu est l'Entendement, le seul Entendement qui existe réellement — la conscience divine, universelle, ou l'Esprit.

Mais, pourrions-nous demander, qu'en est-il de l'entendement humain ? Comment mes propres pensées individuelles fonctionnent-elles si je n'ai pas d'entendement qui me soit propre. La Science Chrétienne révèle que bien que chacun de nous soit individuel et distinct, nous ne vivons pas en réalité dans un univers composé de millions d'entendements séparés. Chacun de nous est une idée spirituelle, le représentant de Dieu, l'unique En-

tendement. Et ainsi l'homme est en réalité le reflet spirituel de Dieu.

Il s'ensuit que les pensées de Dieu ne sont pas lointaines, inconnues. L'homme, qui est l'idée de Dieu, est la manifestation même de ces pensées. Maintenant même nous pouvons donc commencer à découvrir la nature des pensées de Dieu, pensées de paix et non d'adversité. A mesure que nous devenons plus réceptifs aux concepts spirituels et divins et que nous les mettons en pratique, nous trouverons inévitablement que les manifestations de la nature divine entrent dans notre existence et le gouvernement. En d'autres termes, notre existence humaine subira un changement puisqu'elle n'a que la substance de notre pensée. L'évolution de notre point de vue se manifestera de façon à répondre à nos besoins spécifiques, que ce soit sous forme d'abondance, de santé ou d'activité valable et satisfaisante. L'homme — notre identité spirituelle véritable dans la création totalement bonne et parfaite de Dieu — exprime continuellement la bonté, l'intelligence et l'Amour divins.

On peut se rendre compte que personne n'est forcé d'accepter des pensées ébranlées, basées sur la matière ou de les entretenir. L'environnement, l'hérédité, la domination personnelle, les tendances populaires de pensée, l'endocinement politique — aucune de ces influences ne peut nous priver de notre droit de rejeter des pensées dissimilaires à Dieu et de les remplacer par des concepts semblables à Dieu. Mary Baker Eddy, Découvreur et Fondateur de la Science Chrétienne, écrit : « Sachez donc que vous avez le pouvoir souverain de penser et d'agir d'une façon juste et que rien ne peut vous dépouiller de cet héritage et empiéter sur les droits de l'Amour. »

Il est évident que le point de vue de Christ Jésus était unique, inégalé. La clarté compréhensible qu'il avait de l'intelligence divine, l'Entendement, qui embrasse tout, lui permit de subordonner de façon saine les modes de pensée matériels à la réalité de l'existence spirituelle, la perfection de Dieu et de Son reflet, l'homme. Cela permit à Jésus de

changer des états de pensée qui n'auraient pu être ébranlés autrement. Il dit : « Selon que j'entends, je juge; et mon jugement est juste, parce que je ne cherche pas ma volonté, mais la volonté de celui qui m'a envoyé. »

Chacun peut commencer à mettre en pratique les pensées qui lui sont dictées par Dieu. Elles ne sont pas restrictives. Au contraire, elles apportent dans notre vie une liberté nouvelle, une aventure pleine d'animation : les idées vivaces, pleines d'entraîn de l'Amour divin — des idées originales et paisibles.

Jérémie 20:11 (Version d'Osterwald). Pulpit and Press, p. 3; Jean 5:30.

« Christian Science » (Journal « Science »)
La traduction française du livre d'étude de la Science Chrétienne, « Science et Santé avec la Clé des Ecritures » de Mary Baker Eddy, existe avec la lettre anglaise en regard. On peut l'acheter dans les Bureaux de la Science Chrétienne, ou la commander à Frances C. Carlson, Publisher's Agent, One Norway Street, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. 02115.

Pour les renseignements sur les autres publications de la Science Chrétienne en français, écrire à The Christian Science Publishing Society, One Norway Street, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. 02115.

[This religious article appears in English on the Home Forum page]

Übersetzung des auf der Home-Forum-Seite in englisch erscheinenden religiösen Artikels

(Eine deutsche Übersetzung erscheint wöchentlich)

Ein neuer Ausblick

Haben Sie manchmal das Gefühl, eine Änderung Ihrer Denkweise wäre Ihnen willkommen? Viele von uns sind sich nicht bewußt, daß sie an einer langgehegten Auffassung von sich selbst nicht festzuhalten brauchen. Jeder hat das Recht, seine Individualität zum Ausdruck zu bringen. Jedoch sollte er einen klaren Unterschied machen zwischen den Gedanken, die es aufgrund ihrer Beziehung zur geistigen Wirklichkeit verdienen, akzeptiert zu werden, und denen, die abgelehnt werden müssen.

Wie macht man das? Die Bibel deutet an, daß die notwendige Wandlung im Denken erfolgen kann, wenn man sich der Ideen, die von Gott, dem einen göttlichen Gemüt, ausgehen, stärker bewußt wird. „Ich weiß, was ich für Gedanken über euch habe, spricht der Herr: Gedanken des Friedens und nicht des Leidens, daß ich euch gebe das Ende, das ihr wartet.“

In Übereinstimmung mit den geistigen Wahrheiten, die in der Heiligen Schrift offenbart werden, erklärt die Christliche Wissenschaft, daß Gott Gemüt ist, das einzige Gemüt, das es in Wirklichkeit gibt — das universale, göttliche Bewußtsein oder Geist.

„Aber“, mag jemand fragen, „wie steht es denn mit dem menschlichen Gemüt? Wenn ich kein eigenes Gemüt habe, wie funktioniert dann mein eigenes individuelles Denken?“ Die Christliche Wissenschaft zeigt, daß — wenn auch ein jeder von uns individuell und einzigartig ist — wir in Wirklichkeit nicht in einem Universum von Millionen unabhängiger Gemüter leben. Jeder von uns ist eine geistige Idee oder ein Vertreter Gottes, des einen Gemüts. Und somit ist der Mensch in

Wirklichkeit die geistige Widerspiegelung Gottes.

Daraus folgt, daß Gottes Gedanken nicht weit entfernt, unerkennbar sind. Der Mensch als Gottes Idee ist gerade die Verkörperung dessen Gedanken. Deshalb können wir schon in diesem Augenblick beginnen, das Wesen der Gedanken Gottes zu entdecken, „Gedanken des Friedens und nicht des Leidens“. Wenn wir für die göttlichen, geistigen Begriffe empfänglicher werden und ihnen gemäß leben, finden wir unweigerlich Beweise dafür, daß das göttliche Wesen sich in unserem Leben geltend macht und es beherrscht. Das heißt, unsere menschliche Erfahrung wird sich wandeln, denn sie stellt lediglich die Substanz unserer Gedanken dar. Unser veränderter Ausblick wird in der Erfüllung unserer speziellen Bedürfnisse sichtbar werden — sei es nun in Form von reichlicher Versorgung, Gesundheit oder einer zweckmäßigen und befriedigenden Tätigkeit.

Der Mensch — unsere wahre, geistige Identität in Gottes vollkommenem, absolut guter Schöpfung — bringt die göttliche Güte, Intelligenz und Liebe ununterbrochen zum Ausdruck.

Wir können einsehen, daß niemand gezwungen ist, ein engstirniges, auf die Materie gegründetes Denken zu akzeptieren oder daran festzuhalten. Kein Einfluß — weder Umwelt, Vererbung, Bevormundung, populäre Gedankenrichtungen noch politische Indoktrination — kann uns unser Recht nehmen, göttliche Gedanken abzulehnen, und durch göttliche Begriffe zu ersetzen. Mary Baker Eddy, die Entdeckerin und Gründerin der Christlichen Wissenschaft,

schreibt: „Wisset, denn, daß ihr unumschränkte Macht besitzt, recht zu denken und zu handeln, und daß nichts euch dieses Erbes berauben und gegen die Liebe verstoßen kann.“

Es ist offensichtlich, daß Christi Jesu Ausblick einzigartig und unübertroffen war. Sein klares Bewußtsein von der allumfassenden göttlichen Intelligenz, dem Gemüt, befähigte ihn, die materiellen Gedankenformen beständig der Wirklichkeit des geistigen Seins unterzuordnen, der Vollkommenheit Gottes und seiner Widerspiegelung, des Menschen. Daher war es Jesus möglich, ansonsten starre Gedankenzustände zu ändern. Er sagte: „Wie ich höre, so richte ich, und mein Gericht ist recht; denn ich suche nicht meinen Willen, sondern den Willen des, der mich gesandt hat.“

Jeder kann damit beginnen, sich in einem von Gott gelenkten Denken zu üben. Es schränkt nicht ein. Im Gegenteil, es bringt eine neue Freiheit, eine Frische in unser Leben: sprühende, erhebende Ideen der göttlichen Liebe, die ursprünglich und friedvoll sind.

Jeremia 30:11; Pulpit and Press, S. 3; Johannes 6:30.

« Christian Science » (Journal « Science »)
Die deutsche Übersetzung des Lehrbuchs der Christlichen Wissenschaft, „Wissenschaft und Gesundheit mit Schlüssel zum Heiligen Schrift“ von Mary Baker Eddy, ist mit dem englischen Text auf der gegenüberliegenden Seite gedruckt. Das Buch kann in den Bureaux der Christlichen Wissenschaft gekauft werden, oder von Frances C. Carlson, Publisher's Agent, One Norway Street, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. 02115.

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Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Lined up for a toss toward sun, sand, and sea

By Gordon N. Corvino, chief photographer

'I make something out of nothing.'

Intimacy is the measure of Constable's art. He said the English Lake District, large in scale, even mountainous, compared with the unassuming countryside of his native Suffolk "oppressed his spirits." His frequently quoted aim was to "make something out of nothing" in his landscapes, rather than grandly attempting to fix on canvas "a valley filled with imagery fifty miles long."

This tells much about his oil sketches — these juicy notations in which the paint, a century and a half old, still looks wet. They seem almost as momentary in execution as the light and shadow and weather and leaf-glisten they suggest.

"Willy Lot's House, Near Flatford Mill" is one of a number of studies that the artist may have used in painting the well-known "Haywain." For Constable it is perhaps no more than a stage in the process of arriving at a final exhibitable work. But the survival of many sketches suggests that they were more than dispensable jottings, even to him. For a long while now they have been enjoyed as the freest and most immediate achievements of the 19th-century Englishman's art.

That such reminders were technically necessary to his work habits is made clear when it's known that he was in London when he painted the "Haywain," and therefore out of contact with the scenery which fed his vision. His desire for actuality caused him to send home for a first-hand drawing of a Suffolk wagon (which is the central motif of the finished work) because he couldn't remember the exact appearance of one. This indicates that he had either a rather poor visual memory or, more positively, that he was so concerned that his art be the art of observation that he was reluctant to rely on the practice of storing up formula images. The contrast with his contemporary Turner is striking: Turner was once seen to make a watercolor of an entire and detailed "man-of-war" ship completely from memory.

The predicament of Constable's later works is that he lost contact with his childhood home — his roots. Increasingly he could not let well alone with his paintings, which is surely a clear sign of loss of certainty. For all their great monumentality and sombre weight those late paintings entail a secondary tragedy — that of a once spontaneously inspired artist beset by inconclusiveness.

The contrast could hardly be stronger, in the overall consistency of his art, between his last pictures and this early sketch: a quick-witted transposition of a familiar but freshly observed scene. The painting is a study in suggested little details. Always distinguishing clearly between subject-matter and its evocation in the terms of an art-form — in rich paint, in vigorous tonal contrasts, in the exuberant applications of brush-to-surface — Constable still persuades, through his sketches in particular, that his vision is remarkably true to (as he put it) the "scene" that "employed" him, as well as to its own pure delight.

Christopher Andreas



Willy Lot's House, Near Flatford Mill: Oil on paper by John Constable (1776-1837)

Yellow Flowers

"It is not the name I am interested in," she said.
"But the yellow in forms against the green
Grass going away into the dusk."

"I grant," I said, "an aesthetic experience.
But I warn you," I said, "do not so impulsively dismiss word.
The unnamed has no reality: It will go into the continuum
As the grass is going. Only what we do not want
Let us unnamed. What would we be to each other without names?"

Ralph Robin

Oh . . .

Oh . . .
Honey flowing
Into broken crevices.
One continuous song.
Trees breathless
Blossom-laden
Furred leaves
And the song
Folded into shadow of leaves.

Ryah Tumarkin Goodman

Going places: past present and future

Motoring isn't what it used to be. In our childhood, passing another automobile on the highway was, if not an event, a happening. We searched the faces of the occupants and their license plates for clues to their identities, all unquestionably exotic. Approaching from opposite directions, drivers would raise their hands, chauffeurs would tip their caps, like ship captains acknowledging the significance of their encounter in a vast void. In overtaking, we children wildly gesticulated at the rear window, receiving nods and smiles in return.

Few conveyances we met were self-propelled but more than we cared for were horse-drawn: plows, harvesters, hay wagons too tall to see the driver from behind; carts heaped with nature's fertilizer which left the landscape swamped in its olfactory wake. Most farmers traveled in the middle of the road. To their ears, automotive Klaxons operated on inaudible frequencies, like dog whistles to humans. Abandoning the center path through life was incompatible with their meditative ways.

Now and then a mere flick of the horn would have succeeded, causatively or coincidentally, by the obstacle moving slowly aside. We would bear witness to such a miracle by cranking down all windows on that side and emitting yelps of gratitude. The farmer would smile back at us in a way that left his motive unresolved. Our gratitude, though, was heartfelt for now we were part of a procession going somewhere.

But sometimes our destiny was to drag behind, interminable miles. The moment of seeing the sudden widening of the road (that permitted one to shoot past) initiated a ritual. Its nature and tone depended on the part of Europe one was going through or hailing from. Inhabitants of Bavaria, to name a well-known instance, tended to let loose a stream of high-pitched utterances, holding their cars

at driver-to-driver level long enough to conclude the ceremony. Sometimes this exchange of mutual evaluation was simultaneous. Bavarians were noted for the luxury of their maledictions, both sacred and profane.

We, hailing from the cold lands on the North Sea where emotions were inhaled instead of exhaled, thundered by in silence. But it might take another half hour for the claxton inside us to die down. The Bavarians, I often suspected, had probably discharged all this heat in that one detonation and had forgotten the whole thing in two minutes.

Automobiles don't smell the same way today. When you used to stick your head inside a car, you'd get a nose full of delicious fragrances: emanations from the leather and from the single carnation in the glass vase. Foreign cars exuded still stranger essences; even their gasoline seemed fragrant.

All this is gone: leather has been replaced by plastic; the old, rare sight of autos and of the smell of their fumes have been drowned in their profusion.

True, of course, our parents were moaning just as genuinely about the days, way back, when they moved about by hansom and by cab. What a lovely way to travel! How leisurely! How civilized! How healthy!

And today's automotive generation, no doubt, will tomorrow carry on about this age just as convincingly. Oh, for those good old days when people dawdled along at seventy-five on antique eight-lane "turnpikes" — just taste that quaint word! Oh, for those splendid times when mankind was still unaltered by automatic pilot beams or unsifted by swiveling back their driver's seat to place their phone calls or to play commuter's chess! Oh, for those days when humans still commanded the steering wheel, those last hours of highway heroism!

Andreas and Arnette de Rhoda

Changelings

The heavy hand of summer
lies green upon the hill
casting the close-plated
tree leaves into a
sculptural stillness.

The green exudes into
a sullen sky until the
sudden expected shaft
rifts the clouds with
jagged orange stroke.
Winds rush through
the opening.
Leaf/twig/branch
become again the
dancing mobiles of spring.

The grey rain pours
down in a shifting curtain.
Sycamores throw away
great bunches of their leaves
like gleeful children
eager to see them fly
eager for autumn's coming.

Does anyone know the
season's changes
better than the trees
or reset in them more?

Margaret Touss

Leaf change

Leaf change
is invading me
not color
but shape

In the body
of my mind
I bend to
grasses
curl up
for lilac's
heartshape
lean fingers
toward sky
for oak
stand
feet apart
arms akimbo
for maple

I can enter
and be part of
a forest
at any time
no one
need come
calling me

If I go in
I can come out.

Jeanne Bonville

The Monitor's religious article

A new outlook

Sometimes feel you could welcome a change of thought? Many of us don't realize that a long-accepted view of oneself does not need to continue. Everyone has the right to be himself or herself but at the same time should be discriminate in accepting and rejecting thoughts according to their relation to spiritual reality.

How? The Bible indicates that the needed change of thought can be achieved as one becomes more conscious of the ideas emanating from God, the one divine Mind. "I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

Christian Science, in accord with the spiritual truths revealed in the Scriptures, explains that God is Mind, the only Mind there really is — universal, divine consciousness, or Spirit.

"But," one might ask, "what of the human mind? How does my own individual thinking operate if I have no mind of my own?" Christian Science reveals that while each one of us is individual and distinct, we do not actually live in a universe of millions of separate minds. Each one is a spiritual idea, or representative, of God, the one Mind. And so man is in reality God's spiritual reflection.

It follows that God's thoughts are not remote, unknowable. Man, as God's idea, is the very embodiment of them. So right now we can begin to discover the nature of God's thoughts, "thoughts of peace, and not of evil." As we become more receptive to divine, spiritual concepts and live them, we inevitably find evidences of the divine nature entering and governing our experience. That is, our human experience will change, since it has only the substance of our thought. Our changing outlook will be manifested in ways that will meet our specific need, whether it be in the form of abundance, health, or purposeful and satisfying activity. Man — our true, spiritual identity in God's perfect, wholly good creation — continually expresses divine goodness, intelligence, and love.

It can be recognized that no one is compelled to accept or hold to cramped, matter-based thinking. Environment, heredity, personal domination, popular thought-trends, political indoctrination — none of these influences can deprive us of our right to reject ungodlike thoughts and to replace them with Godlike concepts. Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, writes, "Know, then, that you possess sovereign power to think and act rightly, and that nothing can dispossess you of this heritage and trespass on Love."

It is evident that Christ Jesus' outlook was unique, unequalled. His clear awareness of

Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number.
Isaiah 40:26

Night poems

... entangled fragments
daffodils, mulberry leaves
windrow walks walk —

a gentle mist of shadow
half drawn unendingly still.

Edmund L. White

the all-embracing divine intelligence, or Mind, enabled him to consistently subordinate material thought-modes to the reality of spiritual existence, the perfection of God and of His reflection, man. This enabled Jesus to change otherwise inflexible states of thought. He said, "As I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me."

Everyone can begin to practice God-directed thinking. It is not restrictive. On the contrary, it brings a newfound freedom, an exciting adventure, into one's life: divine Love's sparkling, boyant ideas — original and at peace.

Jeremiah 29:11; **Pulpit and Press, p. 3; John 5:30.

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OPINION AND...

Carter can still split a melon and read deer tracks

By Walter C. Rodgers

Plains, Georgia
He hardly looked like the President of the United States, but there he was, kneeling on the ground, straddling a watermelon and slicing it end to end with a pocket knife.

"My daddy used to grow field watermelons," he says, the perspiration beading up on his forehead. Behind him is a vine-entangled tractor shed where perhaps three dozen more watermelons are stored. A Secret Service agent pokes around the shed nervously checking for snakes.

Jimmy Carter picked up the watermelon, dropped it, and it split into perfect halves along the seam he had cut. In a matter of minutes he had halved and quartered half a dozen melons.

There was something whimsically allegorical about the President of the United States, the most powerful man in the free world, sweating on his knees, handing out chunks of sugary pink watermelon to the photographers and reporters who dutifully follow him.

"Just use your fingers," he said in his soft Georgia accent. Then he pointed to a water faucet on the back of an unpainted house that he rented to a tenant farmer, telling everyone they could wash up afterwards.

On the way home he hoisted a mammoth watermelon to his shoulder announcing, "This one's got yellow meat in it."

A reporter said, "You're just pulling our leg because we're city slickers."

"No," he replied, "It's really true."

The President's brother Billy chimed in: "They really have yellow meat in them. You



won't see them on the market, they won't ship."

The President got a twinkle in his eye and said, "We eat the ones with the yellow meat, you folks get the pink ones."

I was reminded of a year ago when the public was unsure who or what Jimmy Carter was. He told a group of skeptics, "You'll never understand me till you come to Plains."

Mr. Carter remains very much a man of the soil. He still strides effortlessly across long green rows of peanut plants with the ease of most of his recent predecessors walking

through the hells of Congress.

He stopped at the far side of the field near the woods to inspect damage done by deer that dug up the peanuts. Carter read the entire episode through the deer tracks baked into the brick-like Georgia clay between the despoiled rows.

The President and brother Billy drove on through choking dust along back country roads in Sumpter and Webster Counties to more of the Carter Farms property leased to Leonard Wright, a black tenant farmer.

Mr. Carter greeted Mr. Wright with the same easy rapport he had used to charm black voters in church rallies in Cleveland and the South Side of Chicago last fall. Together the three men inspected another peanut field, the President wearing blue jeans, a cotton shirt, and farm boots and squatting on his haunches while the ubiquitous gnats flew around his ears.

They conferred on how 90 percent of the area's corn crop had been lost to the drought and how the army worms, usually in the corn, had developed an appetite for peanuts. In inspection of the leaves and stems went on for five or 10 minutes, and then the men sought the shade of a live oak that may have been as

old as the Republic itself.

The President explains to the pool reporter, and cameramen following him that this land originally belonged to his wife's people. His mother-in-law, Miss Allie, grew up in a house just down the lane. "Rosallynn's folks settled here right after the Indians moved out in 1833," he explained.

Former Governor and Georgia historian Jimmy Carter takes over, and he recited his wife's genealogy reflected on the lichen-stained tombstones under the oak tree. He explains he had to put a chain link fence to keep the boys from "rooting around the graves."

Mrs. Carter's family bought the land for 9 cents an acre, he recalls, right after the government first surveyed it during Jackson's presidency.

"Drury Murray," he whispers, "born 1787. We generally come out here every time we come home to just walk in the woods. Rosallynn and I bought this land from her great father." Clearly Jimmy Carter was proud of his material success in being able to buy the land, keep it in the family, and continue to make a profit from it.

Mr. Rodgers is White House correspondent for Associated Press Radio.

Who says tennis has to be fun?

Melvin Maddocks

It's been more than a decade now since the psychiatrist Eric Berne wrote his best-seller, "The Games People Play," and there's really no telling how much mischief his popular thesis, crudely popularized, has done.

Not only did many people conclude that life is a game, a concept that may be true at a profound level but not in the frivolous terms it is usually perceived. Almost as many people concluded that games are, in fact, life. The carelessness with which people treat their lives and, on the other hand, the seriousness, the truly unforgivable humorlessness with which they treat their games now are a characteristic part of the '70s.

Grown men and women take on and discard careers and homes and families with blitheness. But they jog with a grim fidelity that can only be described as early-fundamentalist.

And then there's tennis.

In a book gloomily enough titled "Love and Hate on the Tennis Courts: How Hidden Emotions Affect Your Game" (Serbiner's, \$7.95) two psychiatrists, Sidney H. Cath and Alvin Kahn, with the aid of Nathan Cobb, conclude that "approximately 80 percent of the people playing this game are taking it as something other than a game." And that statistic certainly includes the authors, though how they arrive at their figure remains one of those mysteries, like those served in the ad court.

Instead of shouting, "Keep your eye on the ball!" or "Bend your knees!", like other coaches, the tennis psy-

chiatrists cry: "Maximize your aggressiveness!" "Cope with your depressive negativism!" "Maintain a realistic self-image!" To them a drive is not forehand or backhand but Oedipal. But, if one reads correctly between the lines, the idea is still to win.

Even the joke books on tennis aren't really kidding. Shepherd Mead, who sent America into giggles with "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," has written a book on "Tennis Without Really Trying" (McKay, \$8.95). The problem is, Mead takes tennis a lot more seriously than he took business. After the obligatory games are in about tennis types ("The Abominable Chopperman," "The Sultan of Swat," "The Poopy Retriever"), Mead throws off his cap and balls, dons his sweat bands and suede-toe sneakers, and turns out to be a Tennis Fanatic himself. He is definitely not fooling when he prescribes the necessary regimen for winners:

Run at least three miles a day.
Do 20 minutes of calisthenics.
Practice half an hour on the backboard.
Plan at least two hours.
That's not "really trying"? That's practically your life.
Tennis humor — and there's an awful lot of it in books,

in cartoons, in calendars, and at the joke-shop-souvenirs level — exists mostly as a disguise. In the inner sanctum of the tennis club it's one thing to be a fanatic among fanatics. But in the great big world outside, tennis nuts don't always want to be thought of as tennis nuts. So they put their ho-ho side up front.

In the service of this deception, personalities like Vic Braden are essential. "Vic-Braden's Tennis for the Future" (Little, Brown, \$12.95) shows that smiling, cherubic man on the dust jacket, and one can just hear the jolly voice of PBS television's "Tennis Tips" warning all net-rushing hackers about the risks of a "fuzz sandwich." In fact, Braden (with Bill Bruns) has written one of the most comprehensive and comprehensible manuals on how to hit a tennis ball. But the message within the message is: How to fool the world by winning and laughing.

So in professional tennis the players perform like businessmen, and in amateur tennis the businessmen act like professionals — mostly like Nastase.

John Updike — a golfer primarily, if literary gossip is to be believed — calls tennis a "fluid, treacherous game." But if games are "treacherous" — if they have turned into tyrants — it is we who have made them the little monsters they are. Perhaps the time has come for us game-players to shake our tennis racket, or our liddidly-wink as the case may be, and shout in some unison: Pleasure is a responsibility that only masochists refuse to accept.

Readers write

Inflation Soviet style, trade unions, nuclear energy, Taiwan

The article, "Soviet economist tells how the U.S.S.R. avoids inflation" (Monitor, August 8, 1977) might be completed by the following information.

The Soviet Union runs four distinct categories of stores:

1. "Good" stores where there is little choice and frequent shortages of goods.

2. The so-called "Barizka" where special goods (caviar, high-grade coffee, etc.), obtainable in ordinary stores, are sold strictly for hard currency to tourists and resident foreigners (this principle also applies to certain restaurants).

3. Stores run on a system of "bonds" delivered to Soviet citizens in exchange for foreign currency they may have earned abroad, and which permits them to buy imported goods, otherwise unavailable.

4. Exclusive shopping centers strictly reserved for privileged Soviet VIPs, where the best of everything is sold to them at very advantageous prices.

Mr. Chaplin apparently fails to mention this system in his explanations to Professor Stokes.

Paris

Trade unions

If the recent trouble at Lewisham and Hull

is to be laid at the door of the overbearing attitude of the trade unions, it is surely a case of history repeating itself, inasmuch as in a previous era, the smugglers waxed so vicious and savage as to lose the surreptitious support of country clergy, landowners, and others on whom they depended for their illicit trade. That much and no more. The trade union had a case in some instances in the past where it seemed a question of the underdog. But that is not so today.

Romney, England

Edgar Newgass

Interim atomic reactors

It is now widely agreed that atomic reactors, particularly breeders, are unavoidably dangerous in respect to the handling of plutonium, which could be used to make bombs.

A reply to such objections is to say: "We must have atomic reactors or our economy will founder as the oil runs out."

As an energy researcher, I would like to put things in perspective. Atomic reactors are not necessary for the long-term future of our economy. For a brief time — a generation — we shall need every new source of energy to tide over the change from oil and natural gas to renewable resources. Plants for the gasification of coal and atomic reactors will indeed have to

be built — for temporary use (one generation) — but at the same time there can be building up solar collectors for the massive generation of hydrogen fuel for transportation and industrial use.

It is possible to get solar energy from the sun by the electrolysis of water with the solar electricity and the passage of the resulting hydrogen fuel in pipes to the areas concerned. Pollution from fossil fuel burning and atomic reactors would, then, be no longer a problem.

Atomic reactors can be a temporary evil so long as we do not delay in the building up on a massive scale of solar to hydrogen conversion plants.

J. O'M. Beckris
Professor of Chemistry
The Flinders University
of South Australia

Bedford Park, South Australia

In support of Taiwan

In reference to the article on Taiwan by Ray S. Citing, I agree generally with what he wrote. However, there is one important omission: the original Chinese settlers — now called Taiwanese.

I spent two years in Taiwan as an army wife and met both Taiwanese and Chinese from the mainland. They both are generally likeable

What I did not like was the animosity which existed between the groups (this may have changed with intermarriage) and the way the mainlanders had usurped the rights and property of the Taiwanese.

This animosity stemmed from the fact that many local businessmen had been deprived of their income and influence. An example: our landlord had been the major sugar manufacturer on the island. When the "refugees" came, his business was taken over by the government and he was given worthless timberland in exchange.

I must give the Chinese credit for improving conditions in Taiwan and encouraging industry, but they still, I believe, think of the Taiwanese as inferior and incapable of helping to run their own country. This should be changed and the Taiwanese allowed to hold higher offices.

If we Americans assist Taiwan, I think we should insist that this situation be remedied or deny that assistance.

Gig Harbor, Wash.
We invite readers' letters for this column. Of course we cannot answer every one, and some are condensed before publication, but thoughtful comments are welcome.

Letters should be addressed to: The Christian Science Monitor, International Edition, One Norway Street, Boston, MA 02115.

COMMENTARY

Joseph C. Harsch

The Panama Canal issue

America's self-styled conservatives should give a second thought to the consequences before they go ahead and do what they think they want to do — spoil the proposed new treaties between the United States and the Republic of Panama.

The merits or demerits of any action must be judged by the results of that action. In the case of the Panama Canal treaties there can be no doubt about the results. If the treaties are spoiled the prime beneficiaries will be the communist parties of Latin America.

The reverse is also true. If the treaties are ratified by the Senate of the United States and go into effect, the prime losers will not be the communist parties of Latin America but their friends in Latin America and other parts of the world.

The existing condition in Panama is, whether fairly or unfairly, a prime propaganda asset for the communist parties of Latin America. They use it, daily, in their propaganda, as evidence of "Yankee imperialism." They use it as evidence that the United States never was and never will be a true "good neighbor." And

if the treaties are spoiled the communists will use that to aid their own identification with Latin American nationalists. U.S. interests will be made in seem unpatriotic.

The foreseeable results of ratification are disappointment for the communists, and more than adequate protection for vital U.S. interests.

Those vital interests are commercial and military. Both are safeguarded under the two pending treaties. The United States will retain military bases in the area until the year 2000, and also the right to intervene if necessary to protect the "neutrality" of the canal after 2000.

The decisive power of the United States in the area is not in question. For as far ahead as anyone can foresee the United States will in fact use the canal freely for its commercial and military purposes. It is not giving up de facto control. It is only giving up the things which call Latin Americans the most, the special and privileged status of American citizens in a special "zone" and the exclusion of Panamanian authority from a zone which bisects their country.

The treaties are in fact nothing more than

an exercise in making appearances conform with the standards of the times.

Back in 1903 only a few muralists and political idealists objected when President Theodore Roosevelt stage-managed an insurrection in the Isthmus of Panama against the Republic of Colombia. A pair of U.S. warships, one at either end of the future Canal Zone, blocked the armed forces of Colombia while the local fire brigade in Panama City was hastily declared to be the army of the new Republic of Panama. In 1903 that was generally regarded as a "progressive" deed. It did get the canal built.

But this is now 1977, not 1903. Relics of turn-of-the-century colonialism are in poor repute. Appearances should be changed even if the substance remains the same. For Washington to renounce its always dubious claim to "sovereignty" over the Canal Zone is to gain a propaganda advantage over the communists at no real loss.

Both for commercial and military purposes the 1903 canal is now obsolescent. Its locks are too narrow for either super-tankers or aircraft carriers. The U.S. Navy used the canal for warships 12 times in 1974, 22 times in 1975, and

17 times in 1976. All but one were transits by ships under 2,500 tons.

Sometime between now and the year 2000 there may be a start on a new canal. To be modern it would have to be wide enough and deep enough for big tankers and aircraft carriers. For safety in wartime it should be an all sea-level canal. One small bomb can knock out a lock and close the present canal for an indefinite time. It is hard to knock out a sea-level canal from a distance and relatively easy to get it reopened.

But then it is possible that by the year 2000 supertankers and aircraft carriers will have gone the way of the mastodon, and the existing canal will be good enough for the tramp freighters and the occasional cruise ship. And will it really matter then whose flag flies over it so long as America's essential commercial and military interests are protected, as they are under the treaties?

The effort by the conservatives to spoil the Panama treaties is another case of the political right actually serving the interests of the communists — of course with the most conservative intentions.

Irish draw own conclusions on Carter statement

By Al McCreary

The response in Ireland to President Carter's tactful and measured statement on Ulster has helped to underline the degree of polarization and wishful thinking in this unhappy land. The statement was meant to be helpful and, to some extent, it was. But because it was so studiously vague, politicians on both sides have been drawing conclusions to suit themselves.

A key phrase in the speech was President Carter's support for "the establishment of a form of government in Northern Ireland which will command widespread acceptance throughout both parts of the community." This was interpreted by Mr. Harry West, official Unionist leader, as a presidential endorsement of the Unionists' Convention report — a blueprint for the government of Northern Ireland on Unionist terms which has already been rejected flatly by the British.

Politicians in Dublin and political representatives of the Roman Catholic minority in Ulster, in turn, have interpreted the speech as a boost for the British proposals on power sharing between the Protestants and Roman Catholics — a form of government which has been turned down flatly by the Unionists.

Mr. John Hume, deputy leader of the mainly Roman Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party, and thought to be a key figure in pres-

ing for the Carter statement, said "President Carter shows our people what the real prize of agreement could be — a prize that could help us eradicate once and for all our serious social and economic ills."

Mr. Hume was referring to President Carter's suggestion that "additional job-creating investment" could be forthcoming (provided, of course, that Congress could provide the funds) if both communities in Northern Ireland could agree to live in peace. This is seen here not so much as a carrot but rather as a questionable belief that the promise of American dollars would soften Irish hearts and help to stop the killing.

There is, however, a desperate need for further investment with the Ulster unemployment figures, the highest since 1959. If American investors could give practical encouragement to Mr. Roy Mason, the British minister in charge of Northern Ireland, during his industrial mission to America in October, it would be a more tangible indication of present help than presidential promises.

Inevitably some Unionists in Ulster have dismissed the President out of hand. Harold McCusker, Unionist MP for Armagh, referred to him as "just another interfering outsider," while a spokesman for Dr. Paisley's party

claimed that President Carter was under the influence of "united Irishmen" in America.

There is general political agreement, however, that a statement on Northern Ireland by the President of the United States is significant because of the stature of the office. This is a point conceded even by the political wing of the Provisional IRA. But in practical terms it is difficult to see what the statement can achieve, if anything, in the short term.

The Irish love to speculate, and there is much speculation about President Carter's motives. Some people feel that he was putting on record his views on Ireland as a counter to Communist bloc accusations of a violation of human rights by the British. Other observers feel that he was trying to put subtle pressure on the British to do something positive about power sharing and to put an end to the sterile political vacuum that currently prevails in Ulster. Yet, others feel that he was making his own political gesture in the United States to the Irish-American lobby in the Democratic Party.

Most important, however, the possible effect of the Carter speech in America is not overlooked on this side of the Atlantic. Many people hope that it will help to stem the flow of dollars and support to violent paramilitary groups in Ireland.

There can be no more equivocation by Irish-Americans and others who continue to want to believe that violence is the only way by which the people of Ireland can achieve long-term stability. President Carter made it clear to the world that reconciliation in Ireland is the only way forward and that the solution must come from the people who live there.

To many in Northern Ireland, sickened and hardened by the violence, this appears as just another tired old platitude but that is a view which underestimates the man and the stature of the office. Neither Jimmy Carter, nor the Queen of the United Kingdom, nor the British Government can make people of Northern Ireland live together in peace if they do not wish to do so; but when the President of the United States places himself firmly and in public on the side of those who reject violence in Northern Ireland, his action is a further chipping away at the old edifice of violent Irish nationalism.

And that cannot be a bad thing for all those who truly love Ireland and who are working towards a peaceful and a permanent solution on both sides of the Atlantic.

Mr. McCreary is an editorial writer for the Belfast Telegraph.

Hot summer in Peru

By Bernard Marguerite

I could have chosen a better time to go to Peru than this past troubled summer.

The travel agents were not wrong. Cuzco, the old Inca capital, is a unique specimen of archeology. Machu Picchu is even more breathtaking than the guidebook says.

But, after the government's austerity plan was announced June 10 by Minister of Economy Walter Pizarro, the country was hit by riots, disturbances, and strikes that went on and on. (Mr. Pizarro offered his resignation one month later.)

During the day the situation in Cuzco seemed normal, notwithstanding military patrols on the streets and army trucks in front of the railway station and airport. The only train to leave was the tourist train for Machu Picchu, filled with people from all around the world showing a total lack of concern for the problems of the Peruvian worker. They had come to see the Peru of yesterday, not to be confronted with the dramas of today.

At 9 p.m. the curfew began and everybody was supposed to be home. At 9:05 p.m. the shooting started. It lasted sporadically all night. How many casualties? A few hundred, said rumor. Two persons killed, proclaimed the police. Forty, said a professor at Cuzco University.

In any event, the soldiers were shooting all too readily at the people still on the streets and the walls were covered with slogans against fascism and the military dictatorship.

In a little town to the north I witnessed a strange scene. Three military trucks started to drive very rapidly around the square to impress the crowd of townspeople and striking university students. The people did not shout slogans; they just began to whistle. The square became one huge whistle. Unforgettable. From time to time, though, the trucks stopped, and the soldiers used heavy sticks on everybody around, including women and children.

At the same time Peru was voting for a human rights resolution at the conference of the Organization of American States. Pope Paul, receiving the new Peruvian Ambassador to the Vatican, said he "knew very well" how the Peruvian Government was trying hard to build a community "fairer, freer, and more authentically human." Robert Dean, who had been U.S. Ambassador to Peru until June, said in an interview published later: "Peru is not a human rights country in the problem sense; philosophically, this government wants to help its citizens, not to abuse them."

On July 19 the general strike in Lima was so brutally repressed that at least six persons

were killed by the military forces. On July 23 the Peruvian leaders decided to extend for one more year the suspension of constitutional rights that was enacted in 1976.

Despite the outcry, Mr. Pizarro had reasons to present his austerity plan. According to the Lima newspaper, La Prensa, the foreign debt of Peru is somewhere between \$5 billion and \$7 billion. The 1977 trade deficit is forecast at \$700 million, with 40 percent of exports consumed by the service of foreign debt. Mr. Pizarro courageously asked for a reduction of imports, including those for the army, and denounced widespread corruption, red tape, and lack of efficiency in state planning.

What may infuriate Peruvians: the most, indeed, is to see how much is spent on arms while the people have so little to eat. The average citizen with a fraction of U.S. salary — but food prices almost as high — is not made happier by the fact that Peru has bought 36 Soviet fighter bombers and 800 Soviet tanks — and that his country is the first in South America to possess guided antiaircraft missiles provided by the Soviet Union as well as sophisticated radar systems.

The political aspect of the situation is not the most important. The government of Gen-

eral Morales Bermudez (for which not one citizen had a good word during my trip across the country) has been slowly moving away from the Soviets. The latter have been eager to sell arms to Peru but not support its economy. The Cuban experiment apparently was enough for them. Now Peruvian leaders hope that the few U.S. corporations not nationalized at the beginning of the military regime will help to redress the economy of the country.

"We are not protesting for political reasons," striking students told me with tears in their eyes. "Look around. The life of our fathers is not only not improving. It is growing worse each year."

But should the talk finally turn to politics, individuals and students speak with one voice of the hope they have in President Jimmy Carter. During the summer heat of a kind I had not expected, there was no more "Yankee go home," no "Vietnam," no "Watergate." The popularity of Carter was already surpassing that of Kennedy long ago. With the new administration then only six months old it was an achievement for the U.S. to be proud of.

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